SKELMERSDALE
Champion
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New outdoor gym opened at primary school

Karting ace Tom is on fast track to success

Life-saving card scheme launched - thanks to Maya!

A POTENTIALLY life-saving memory card scheme designed to help children provide accurate information to the emergency services in critical situations could soon be rolled out across the county - thanks to the quick-thinking of a youngster from West Lancashire.

Maya Turner from Burscough was just four years old when her speedy reactions probably saved her mum Michelle's life.

Michelle suffers from POTS (Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome) and had collapsed unconscious at home with no other adults in the house. The condition can prove fatal if sufferers are left unattended.

However, Maya stayed calm, dialled 999 and was able to tell the operator their address, then stayed on the line until paramedics arrived.

Fortunately a few weeks earlier Michelle had drawn a picture of an ambulance for Maya with the numbers 999 written on it, explaining what to do in case of just such an emergency.

Now, the police, fire and ambulance services in Lancashire are piloting a scheme to provide child-friendly In Case of Emergency (ICE) cards for all Year 1 pupils who would write their names and addresses on the back which they could then recite in an emergency.

The pilot - which it is hoped will eventually be rolled out across the county - was launched at Maya's school, Burscough Village Primary School on Friday (February 10).

The ICE cards are designed to help children to remember the number to ring and to give their full names, house number, road name and their village or town.

Proud Michelle said: "The day after Maya saved my life we found her copying her little 999 piece of paper to give to her friends.

"Now, with the help of our amazing North West emergency services these cards may be given to every five-year-old in the county so if they were ever to find themselves in the same terrifying situation as my Maya then they would know what to do."

IT'S 'BUSINESS AS USUAL' AT CO-OP BANK'S SKEM SITE

Company says centre will remain 'key part of operation' despite sale announcement

BOSSES at the Co-operative Bank have given assurances about the future of the Skelmersdale site - which employs more than 650 people - after the group was put up for sale this week.

They have said that the location at Delf House, Southway in the town centre, is a "key part" of their operation and "will remain so."

The company is one of the town's biggest employers with most of the employees in Skelmersdale dealing with the bank's call centre operations.

On Monday (February 13) the Co-operative Bank announced that it was for sale with companies being invited to buy all of its shares.

Following the announcement, The Champion contacted Co-operative Bank bosses about the future of the Skelmersdale site.

A spokesman for the company responded: "It will be business as usual at Skelmersdale. The centre is a key part of our operation and will remain so."

Report by **Henry James**

This is not the first time that fears have been raised about the future of the Skelmersdale site.

In 2012 the company said it was not leaving Skelmersdale and revealed they were not going to move to a new £20m development as part of the new Skelmersdale town centre.

And in 2013 the bank, which the Co-operative Group has a 20% stake in, nearly collapsed and was saved by US hedge funds. At the time massive losses were blamed on the takeover of Britannia in 2009.

Management at the bank, which prides itself on its values and ethics and has four million customers, have said that since 2013 "considerable progress" has been made delivering a more resilient, focused and digitally-enabled bank and it has a "consistently loyal" customer base.

The Co-operative bank HQ in Skelmersdale

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Villagers celebrate 'new lease of life' for community venue

by Danielle Thompson

Youngsters from the Sunny Bunnys pre-school group enjoy an interactive session at Westhead Village Hall

RESIDENTS of a West Lancashire village are celebrating a new lease of life for a community venue which looked set to go under the hammer six months ago.

And volunteers who banded together to halt the sale of Westhead Village Hall say the campaign has also brought the community even closer together.

In August, the Diocese of Liverpool, which owns St James Church in Westhead, confirmed that their lease on the village hall had lapsed.

And fears of it being sold off prompted members of St James, the Westhead Carnival Committee and the Friends of St James to hold a public meeting at the hall in Wigan Road.

The event was well-attended by local residents and volunteers came forward to set up a new management committee and board of trustees.

Now, six months later, they say the hall is "going from strength to strength" and is used for a number of new classes and community groups, including friendship groups, sports, and baby and toddler sessions.

Maria O'Neill, one of the volunteers, said: "It's now six months since the proposed sale of Westhead Village Hall was cancelled due to the rallying support of the community.

"The hall is going from strength to strength, bookings are increasing, new classes and events have launched and are starting to be established, such as a stay and play, yoga, pilates, junior dance classes, GCSE revision classes, baby and toddler sensory sessions, mature movers offering exercise for the older and less mobile and craft classes to suit different skills.

"A new group called Come and Meet Each Other (CAMEO) meets on the first Wednesday of the month from noon to 3pm, offering refreshments, good company, and on occasions, guest speakers.

"Also the Gardening Club will re-start in April so there is lots of choice for every age and ability.

"We have also started community gatherings such as our quiz night and a local history talk and more events are planned in the coming months.

"In essence, Westhead Village Hall has brought our village even closer together, all working voluntarily for a better community.

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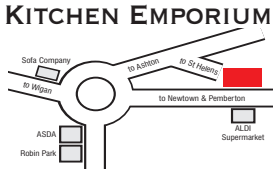

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Local businesses urged to enter awards event

Report by **Henry James**

THE boss of an award-winning West Lancashire company is urging other firms in the borough to take part in a scheme to reward the county's most inspiring and enterprising businesses.

Phil Lawson, managing director of Virtue Technologies, which is based at White Moss Business Park in Skelmersdale, said winning at the Be Inspired Business Awards (BIBAs) for the past two years had boosted his firm.

Mr Lawson was named Business Person of the Year at last year's prize-giving ceremony, having picked up the Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2015.

The BIBAs are now open for applications in 18 categories, including Small Business of the Year and Manufacturer of the Year. The deadline for entries is the end of March.

Phil Lawson said: "Winning at the BIBAs in 2015 and 2016 has been a tremendous motivation for all our staff. They enjoy the process, the ceremony and, of course, winning such a prestigious award.

"It is invaluable to achieve things as a group and I feel is the most important part of winning a BIBA."

He said his firm, which supplies IT systems for the education sector, had used the awards' application process as an opportunity to review its performance over the past year, and the following judging sessions to develop its future plans.

The BIBAs has a unique second round of judging where it sends panels in to business premises to meet applicants.

Mr Lawson added: "Being questioned and asked to justify what you have done by the BIBAs judges definitely helped us formulate our former strategy and development of the business, and finally the second round of judging, 'The BIBAs On Tour' is beneficial to all parts of the business.

"The judges come to your workplace and it gives employees at all levels the chance to be asked about what they do, share their opinions and be part of the process."

The BIBAs, which is run by the North and Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, is holding a special boot camp session to help applicants craft their entries on Thursday, February 23.

It will be hosted at the chamber's Fylde coast office at Amy Johnson Way, Blackpool, and see the judges and former winners give tips on how to get the most out of the awards.

■ For further details and to enter the awards visit www.thebibas.co.uk.

Phil Lawson, managing director of Virtue Technologies

Robber who threatened 92-year-old at knifepoint sentenced to eight years

A SKELMERSDALE man who broke into two houses in Chorley and held his victims - including a 92-year-old woman - at knifepoint has been jailed for eight years.

Police have welcomed the sentence, saying "an extremely dangerous offender" is now off the streets of Lancashire.

In the first incident Leon Martin, 27, of Ennerdale, Skelmersdale broke into the home of the 92-year-old woman in Glamis Drive, Chorley at around 10.15am on December 23, 2016.

After searching the property, he picked up a knife from the kitchen and threatened the pensioner with it before leaving after he was unable to find any items of value.

The second incident happened minutes later at a property in nearby Southport Road when Martin entered the house and threatened two men who were inside.

He demanded money and car keys, putting a knife to the throat of one of the men as he marched him around the house.

Two other family members who were in the house at the time managed to lock themselves in an upstairs bedroom where they were able to call police. Again Martin left without any property.

Within minutes officers arrived at the scene and found Martin hiding in a nearby garden where he was arrested. He was later charged with two offences of assault with intent to rob and possession of a bladed article.

He appeared at Preston Crown Court and pleaded guilty to all charges.

DC Paul Price of South CID, said: "This was a particularly nasty incident which was extremely distressing for all involved.

"To be faced with an unknown person wielding a large kitchen knife in their own home must have been absolutely terrifying for the victims.

"Incidents like this can traumatise those affected for a number of years; the fact that it occurred just two days before Christmas only compounds what was a truly horrific crime.

"The result at court means that an extremely dangerous offender, one who has shown he is willing to target the most vulnerable in our community, is now off the streets of Lancashire for a long time."

Leon Martin

Outdoor gym opened

PUPILS at a Skelmersdale primary school will be able to enjoy physical exercise and fresh air at the same time after the opening of their new outdoor exercise gym.

Mark Forster, manager of West Lancs School Sports Partnership, went along to Moorside Academy in Back Lane to perform the official opening of the facility.

He said: "Children's well-being in terms of health is a national issue and it is so very pleasing to see a school invest in this very important issue.

"The outdoor gym is a fantastic means by which children can have fun and keep healthy and fit."

Moorside Academy pupils try out their new outdoor fitness equipment after the official opening by Mark Forester.

The dumped bags

Council warning to fly-tippers

Authority pledges 'hard-line approach' as man is ordered to pay £800-plus in fines and charges for dumping household waste

WEST Lancs Council chiefs have issued a warning to would-be fly-tippers after a man was ordered to pay more than £800 in fines and costs for dumping household waste in the borough.

Adam Mitchell was prosecuted by the council after dumping 12 bin bags of rubbish near to his home in the Denshaw area of Up Holland.

Wigan Magistrates Court heard how Mitchell had admitted depositing the bags in a ditch when interviewed by the council's environmental enforcement officers.

He pleaded guilty to fly-tipping and was given a fine of £300 and ordered to pay £503.72 in costs to the council and a victim charge of £30, making a total of £833.72.

Council chiefs say the case demonstrates the authority's ongoing commitment to tackling fly-tipping, a criminal offence for which individuals and businesses found to have broken the law could face serious penalties.

Councillor Kevin Wright, the council's portfolio holder for health and community safety, said: "The message sent out by this conviction is clear. West Lancashire Borough Council takes a hard-line approach to fly-tippers and is committed to taking action against offenders wherever possible."

Meanwhile the council would like to remind all householders that they should dispose of their own waste correctly.

If they employ an individual or a company to remove their waste they need to make sure it is disposed of legally. Anyone removing waste as part of a business must have a waste carrier's licence and give waste transfer notes to whomever they take waste from.

Householders can check if anyone who removes waste from them has a waste carrier's licence by contacting the Environment Agency.

If you think waste has been disposed of illegally you can report this to the council 24 hours a day on their website www.westlancs.gov.uk/fly-tipping; or call 01695 577177 between 8.30am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday.

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Hospital trust launches text reminder service for patients' appointments

SOUTHPORT and Ormskirk Hospital Trust have launched a text reminder service to help patients get to their appointments on time – as a missed appointment costs the NHS £100.

Text reminders are sent one week ahead of an appointment and again 48 hours before.

The text gives the date, time and place of the appointment and a contact number to call if the patient needs to cancel or rearrange.

Chief operating officer, Therese Patten, said: "Text reminders are a proven method of reducing the number of missed appointments, especially when they highlight the cost to the NHS.

"We know there are many reasons why people can't appointments. All we ask is that patients let us know if they are unable to attend."

The £100 is an average figure and is the amount the trust would get for an outpatient appointment and also the cost of having a senior member of staff, such as a consultant, not occupied.

Patients unable to attend an appointment should let the hospital know as soon as possible so another patient can be given the slot. Appointments can be rearranged by calling 01695 656680 or emailing soh-tr.appointments@nhs.net

Mobile telephone numbers will be used by the trust only. They will not be passed to other parties. All personal information will be kept in line with the Data Protection Act and the Department of Health record retention guidance.

County council sets budget for 2017-18

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE County Council has approved its budget for 2017/18.

As part of the budget, full council agreed that council tax for 2017/18 be increased by 1.99%, plus a 2% increase specifically for social care services.

In addition to the original budget, an extra £500,000 was approved for the county council's road safety budget.

Council leader, County Councillor Jennifer Mein, said: "We face an unprecedented financial challenge as a result of relentless cuts in central government funding combined with a rising demand for our services.

County Councillor Jenny Mein

"We do not want to increase council tax but our dire financial situation means we have no choice.

"Even allowing for a 3.99% rise over the next four years we will still have a funding gap of £153m in 2020/21.

"We are working extremely hard to ensure that we can continue to provide services to the people of Lancashire, particularly to the most vulnerable in our community.

"But the stark truth is that it is difficult to see how we can continue to do that, particularly beyond 2018/19, when we will have used up all of our reserves."

Cuadrilla seeks variation of plugging site working hours

PLANNING permission is being sought for a variation of working hours to plug an exploratory shale well in Banks.

Currently work on the plugging and abandonment of the well at the Becconsall exploration site in Marsh Road is restricted to the hours of 8am to 9pm.

However, oil and gas exploration company, Cuadrilla Resources is seeking permission from West Lancs Council to work around the clock at the site.

The supporting information on the application states that as the site is more than 'several hundred metres' away from the nearest residential dwelling, the condition 'places an unreasonable restriction on the operation.'

It is expected to take up to 14 weeks to restore the site, depending on weather conditions.

Local residents have until Tuesday, February 21 to make their views on the proposals to the borough council.

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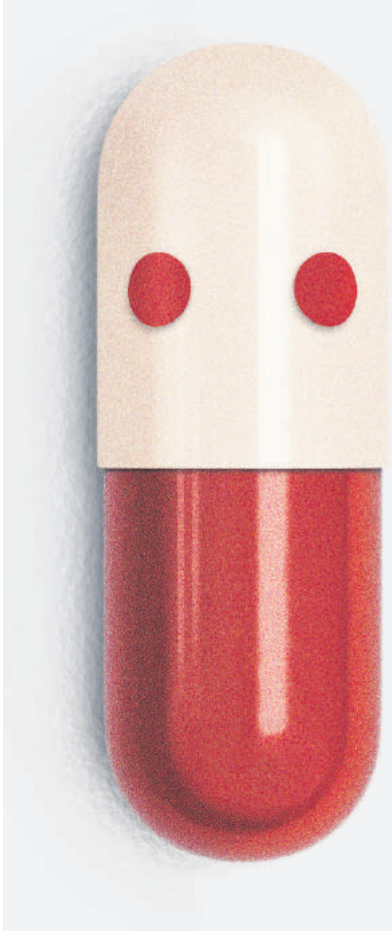

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‘Dangerous and persistent offender’ jailed for drugs and driving offences

Report by **Henry James**

Police praise community’s role in securing court result

A SKELMERSDALE man, described by police as ‘a dangerous and persistent offender’ has been sentenced to four years eight months in prison for possessing Class A controlled drugs with intent to supply.

Donald Callaghan, 41, was jailed at Preston Crown Court as part of Lancashire Police’s Operation Nemesis to crack down on gang-related violence.

Officers had originally pursued Callaghan originally in October last year in a car chase along Ormskirk Road, Skelmersdale.

Callaghan crashed his vehicle on Digmoor Road at the corner with Birkrig and fled the scene but was followed by officers and then detained.

A quantity of cash and Class A drugs were found in the vehicle and he was found to be over the prescribed limit of alcohol to drive.

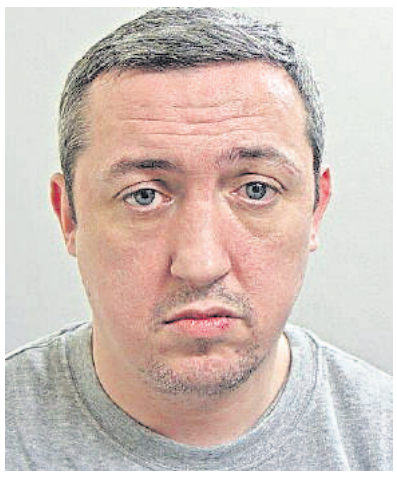
He was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs, dangerous driving, failing to stop, drink driving, driving while disqualified and driving with no insurance.

Callaghan was released on police bail pending forensic examinations.

Then in December information was received by Operation Nemesis officers that Callaghan was again in regular use of a vehicle.

He was sighted driving along Digmoor Road and on this occasion officers were able to use a stinger successfully in order to prevent a high-speed and dangerous pursuit.

Callaghan again failed to stop but could only make off at a relatively slow speed



Donald Callaghan

and for a short distance due to the deflated tyres.

He fled the scene again and was detained and arrested by officers on suspicion of dangerous driving, money laundering, failing to stop, driving while disqualified and driving with no insurance.

On this occasion Callaghan was remanded on bail appearing at Preston crown court where the judge remanded him to prison pending trial.

He appeared at Preston Crown Court earlier this month for sentencing.

In relation to the incident in October he was sentenced to four years’ imprisonment for possession with intent to supply Class A drugs and 10 months for dangerous driving, to run concurrently.

He was also disqualified from driving for four years five months and ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £170 and forfeiture of cash totalling £1,060.

For driving while unfit through drink, he was sentenced to six months imprisonment to run concurrently.

In relation to the incident in December he was sentenced to eight months imprisonment to run consecutively for dangerous driving and a forfeiture of £435.

He also received a further 12-month driving ban to run concurrently.

A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police said: “Without the assistance of members of the local community this court result would not have been possible. Without the local community this dangerous and persistent offender might still be on the streets and roads putting people’s lives at risk.

“The information police receive from the community is vital in tackling crime and the offenders who commit it.

“We will continue to work closely with the community to make Skelmersdale a safer place for everybody.

“If you have any information about crime in your area you can contact the police anonymously either by calling 101 or using crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or alternatively you can attend Skelmersdale police station and ask to speak to an officer from Operation Nemesis in person.”

The shed alarms

Free alarms and locks available to thwart shed raiders

POLICE in Skelmersdale have received funding for shed alarms and locks from Lancashire’s police and crime commissioner Clive Grunshaw following a spate of break-ins in the area.

And officers are inviting residents who feel vulnerable and who would benefit from having a shed alarm provided free, to get in touch.

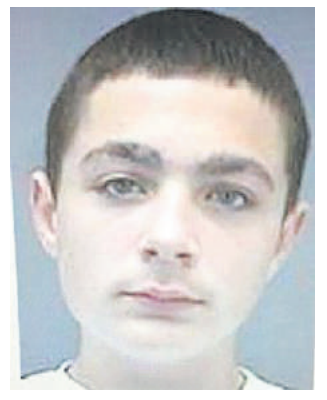
A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police said: “We are targeting vulnerable members of our community to help protect their belongings and make them feel safe in their own homes.

“Please note, the recipients will be required to install the alarm themselves, but it is very simple all you will need is a screwdriver.

“Anyone wishing to have a free alarm should contact PC 6989 Lee Alty or PC 3799 Omaar Bahauddin by the end of February and we can supply one for you if you are eligible through vulnerability, or if you are a recent victim of a shed break-in.

“We can be contacted on 01695566051 (voicemail) or email on 6989@lancashire.pnn.police.uk for PC Alty or 3799@lancashire.pnn.police.uk for PC Bahauddin.”

Missing teenager last seen in Skem



POLICE are appealing for information about the whereabouts of a missing teenager believed to be from the Skelmersdale area.

Fifteen-year-old Joe Rabbetts *(right)* went missing from his home in Cumbria on Friday, February 3.

He was last seen in the Birch Green area and residents with information are asked to call Skelmersdale Police on 101 quoting log number LC-20170203-1361.

Divine Dancers serve up a magical performance of popular fantasy

Members of the Divine Dancers who joined performers from In Another Place for one night of their production of Narnia

TALENTED dancers from across West Lancs enjoyed the magic of Narnia when they teamed up with a Christian charity to host a performance of the show in Liverpool.

The Divine Dancers, a community group which aims to make the arts accessible to all, including the most vulnerable in society, joined performers from In Another Place for one night of their run of the show, Narnia, which began on February 8 and runs until Saturday, February 25 at St George's Hall.

In Another Place is a Waterloo-based charity which works with community groups and smaller specialist groups, including choirs, school groups and puppet theatre, to stage productions.

The Divine Days Community Arts Project, which has bases in Burscough and Skelmersdale, was founded by Katie Whitehead, who runs therapeutic and educational programmes for individuals with additional needs, including creative dance and drama workshops.

Different local drama groups from across the North West have taken on roles in the production, with the Divine Dancers taking part in the show on Thursday, February 9.

Based on the famous Chronicles of Narnia, a series of seven fantasy works by C. S. Lewis, the hall has been transformed to take visitors on a journey through the White Forest and across the land of Narnia in a large-scale, immersive and interactive trail.

Staging the production has involved more than 500 volunteers, including a 90-strong cast with speaking roles and 100 actors playing statues.

More than 100 people have been involving in building the set, which has 65 real pine trees, while an autumn wood includes leaves collected several months ago, carefully pressed and then attached on branches individually by hand.

The ticket sales from the production will help to fund this and future productions by In Another Place.

Edward McCarthy from Divine Days explains: “Our dancers have been involved in projects with In Another Place before, they are brilliant. The dancers gained such a lot from taking part. It boosts confidence, it's great exercise, helps with diversity and it is great fun. Our dancers had a wonderful day and enjoyed meeting other dance groups and actors. We even had a peek at the rest of the production!

“Divine Days’ dance session for adults with additional needs take place every week. Why not come along? Email me at Edward@divinedays.co.uk or call me on 07971299606.”

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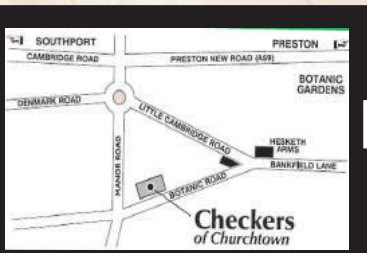

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Glitzy awards ceremony celebrates another year of success for Artz Centre

Report by **Henry James**

THE Artz Centre in Birch Green, Skelmersdale has celebrated its third anniversary with a prestigious annual awards nights staged at the DW Stadium in Wigan.

The black-tie event was held to showcase the hard work and effort the staff and students have put in over the last 12 months when the centre has staged 13 productions, including the release of their anti-crime film Crossing The Line, which is currently being shown in schools across the country.

More than 300 guests attended the event, including Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Liz Savage and special guests from many of the partnership agencies and organisations that continue to work with the Artz Centre.

Awards and celebrations went on to the early hours paying tribute to the children and families of the Skelmersdale area who have helped to make the venture a success.

Seventeen-year-old Liam Hogarth scooped the top prize after joining the Artz Centre just 12 months earlier.

Other big winners were 10-year-old Ekene Hallam who won Junior Student of The Year, and 14-year-old Charlotte Moran who won the top prize at The Artz Academy in Up Holland.

The evening was filled with inspirational stories from another record-breaking year for the Skelmersdale-based company.

Cllr. Liz Savage said: "What a fantastic evening, I was really impressed with the camaraderie of the young people who delighted in their friends receiving awards. It was obvious how hard everyone had worked across the year and you could tell how much the centre means to everyone who is involved, whether as performer or teacher."

Artz Centre director, Mark Ashton, added: "I am often asked if the whole event is a little over the top, with tuxedos and large screens displaying Oscars-style videos of the year. My response is always the same - yes, absolutely over the top. It's an event that our students look forward to, a chance to get dressed up, a chance to share in a year of success.

"We have never been comfortable with cutting corners and this event has been the cherry on the cake of an amazing year for us all."

The young people from the Artz Centre who received their awards

The Artz Centre have now begun work on another exciting year of productions and events including a new music programme and drama classes for three to six-year-olds.

For more information call 01695 733080 or visit www.artzcentre.co.uk.

Tracey's living the dream - thanks to bank's helping hand

Loan gave chef base to turn a hobby into a growing business

A QUALIFIED chef from West Lancashire has come up with the recipe to turn her dream job into reality - thanks to a helping hand from her bank.

Tracey Hale, who is from Skelmersdale, started her business as a wedding venue dresser as a sideline to her 'day job' as a chef and built a strong customer base through word of mouth and referrals from family and friends.

Then she decided to take the plunge and focus full-time on the business, ***Impress Your Guests***, trading from a small unit in Skelmersdale, which she quickly outgrew.

PASSION

Now, after securing a £49,000 loan from NatWest, Tracey has opened her own shop in Ormskirk Road, Up Holland, to display her services and products.

She said: "I've always had a passion for weddings and design, but at first dressing venues was just a hobby.

"After going full-time I wanted a large shop that could showcase what I do.

"This one was in need of major repairs and renovation, but with financial support from NatWest, I have been able to purchase the unit and create something that looks beautiful inside and out.

"Since opening, a veterinary surgeon has decided to take the empty unit next door and we have received lots of compliments on how we are helping to improve the look of the area."

Tracey is now looking to expand through an online shop and potentially recruit staff to meet customer demand.

NatWest Relationship manager Jonathan Dowling said: "Tracey approached NatWest and we were quickly able to identify a suitable funding package.

"She had a clear vision and we understood that this was an excellent opportunity for her business to grow.

"The shop looks fantastic and is already having a positive effect on the local business community."

Tracey Hale

Mum's fury after car damaged in restaurant car park

AN angry mum was left counting the cost when she returned to her car after a family trip to a local restaurant to find it damaged by a collision and the culprit nowhere to be seen.

Julie Mand from Brierfield, Digmoor was "absolutely devastated" to discover that someone had driven into her silver Peugeot on the KFC car park in Southway in Skelmersdale and left the scene without leaving any contact details.

The 37-year-old, who had been at the restaurant with her three children, returned to the car at around 5.20pm on Saturday, February 4 to find a dent on the front passenger side.

She told the Champion: "I am absolutely devastated by this. We had gone inside KFC to have something to eat and had only been there for 20 minutes. We couldn't see the car from where we were sitting. Usually we would have had a take-out.

"The light was smashed in and there was also a dent above the wheel trim.

"I was with my daughter, who is autistic, and she wouldn't get into a taxi so I was given permission by the police to drive home slowly."

Julie, who had to pay to have the car fixed at a local garage, added: "I was told in KFC that there was a witness to the incident but they did not leave any details.

"I have tried to stay positive but I have had to take time off work to sort everything out.

"Whoever has done this doesn't realise the knock-on effect it can have and the amount of work it has created for me.

"However the neighbours have taken the kids to school and people have rallied round and been brilliant."

Julie Mand

Rivals' fans to stage 14-mile sponsored walk to Skem clash

Report by **Tom Martin**

FOLLOWERS of non-league football are used to going 'the extra mile' to support their beloved clubs but the fans of one local side are doing that 14 times over - on foot!

A band of Marine FC fans are set to walk the 14 miles from their home ground at the Marine Travel Arena, in Crosby to Skelmersdale United for the sides' derby clash on Easter Monday, April 17

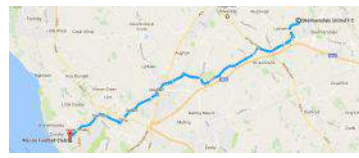
Supporters will go by foot all the way from the Marine Travel Arena, in Crosby, to Skelmersdale United's ground on Monday, April 17 in a bid to raise £2,000.

The walk, led by Marine chairman Paul Leary, starts at 8am and the group are expected to arrive in Skelmersdale shortly before the scheduled 3pm kick off.

Sponsorship proceeds from the walk will go towards Marine's ongoing plans for further improvements to the front of the stadium.

Fans will be hoping for better luck this year, after last season's planned walk was somewhat ruined when the match was called off due to bad weather 13 miles into the journey!

Paul Leary said: "Thankfully the game at Skelmersdale this year is towards the end of April so we should arrive to see the game being played - unlike the Boxing Day fixture last season when the game was postponed with the Marine fans having walked 13 of the 14 miles!



The 14-mile route from Marine to Skelmersdale

"To do this walk again is another great example of our fans literally stepping up to help with the club's ambitions to improve the stadium and its facilities even further.

"Fans of all ages are to take part in the walk, so as we did last year, we will be well prepared with plenty of nourishment on the way to help us through the challenge.

"I shall be wearing my walking boots again for the Marine cause and I look forward to joining some of our superb fans in what will be a fun but long and tiring day ending hopefully with a great game of football.

"The day is all about raising funds towards further improvements to our stadium but a share of my own sponsorship from the walk shall be dedicated to Marine Thatphanom FC the football club that Marine has adopted in Thailand."

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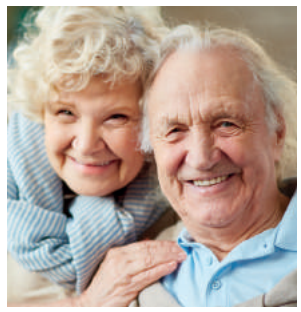

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Ormskirk Cricket Club used lottery funding to pay for the refurbishment of changing rooms and catering facilities

West Lancs projects get lucky with £285,000 in grants from National Lottery

PROJECTS across West Lancashire benefited from more than £285,000 of National Lottery funding in the last year.

A total of 24 lottery grants were given out in the area during 2016, providing a vital boost to arts, sports and heritage projects, alongside community groups helping those most in need.

Among the wide variety of local projects which received National Lottery grants last year were £75,000 to Ormskirk Cricket Club for refurbishment of their changing rooms and catering facility; £10,000 to Ormskirk Community Partnership for their Ormskirk Gingerbread Project – Illuminating Ormskirk's Heritage; and £10,000 to Red Rose Recovery Lancashire to establish a new volunteering initiative covering Ormskirk and Skelmersdale.

Since it began in 1994 National Lottery players have raised in excess of £36 billion for projects and more than 500,000 grants have been awarded across the UK.

All organisations receiving National Lottery funding also have the opportunity to gain nationwide acclaim by entering The National Lottery Awards 2017, the annual search for the UK's best Lottery-funded projects.

National Lottery Awards winners will receive a £3,000 cash prize and national recognition at a glittering ceremony broadcast on BBC One later in the year.

The awards cover seven categories - sport, heritage, the arts, environment, health, education and voluntary/charity projects - and there is also a Special Achievement Award to recognise the outstanding contribution made by an individual to improving the lives of others.

To nominate your favourite project in this year's National Lottery Awards, tweet @LottoGoodCauses or call 02072933329. Entries must be received by midnight on Friday, April 7.

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Tom's on the fast track to karting success

Report by **Henry James**

A YOUNGSTER from Up Holland is in the fast lane to success just 12 months after taking up kart racing.

Tom Ward was encouraged to try out the sport by his dad, Ray, who believed the discipline required would help him to be better prepared for life, as well as providing an exciting and rewarding hobby.

Now the 12-year-old, a Year 8 pupil at Rainford High Technology College, has just completed a highly-successful first season as a racer which has seen him notch up lots of victories and trophies along the way.

Ray told the Champion: "It was my idea to introduce Tom to racing. It demands discipline, attention, foresight and planning. Everything in racing can be related to life itself - if you misbehave then you won't get very far.

"I have many friends who have raced many years since childhood, each one fast on circuit yet safe and law-abiding on the highway and life in general.

"I believe racing develops the person."

Tom drove his first racing kart aged 11 and after three months testing at weekends he was given the opportunity to drive an unrestricted adult kart, recording a time just two-tenths of a second slower than the outright lap record at The Cheshire Kart Racing Circuit at Ellesmere Port.

That convinced Ray that his son had a real talent for the sport and he put him in the care of Sam Pollitt Racing (SPR), an international kart racing team specialising in developing young drivers from as young as six.

Young karting ace Tom Ward

SPR trained Tom during the summer of 2015 and entered him into his first race in August as a novice. He duly won the category and repeated the feat in the next four races.

Tom has also entered into three championships.

In the Northern Karting Federation, a national series for children between the ages of 12 and 16, he finished 10th in the series from a grid of 18.

This was followed by a fourth place in the Cheshire Club Championship, and in the Manchester and Buxton Championship Summer and Autumn Series he again finished fourth in the summer followed by a win in the autumn series.

Tom has also raced at Dubai and Abudha.

Youths hurl rocks at police cars called to disturbance at McDonald's

YOUTHS with their faces covered threw rocks and kicked a football at police cars called to attend a disturbance at the McDonald's restaurant at the Concourse in Skelmersdale.

Officers were called to the scene on the evening of Wednesday, February 8 after youths were seen inside McDonald's front doors.

The incident forced staff to lock the doors of the restaurant.

A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police posted on the force's Facebook site: "On our arrival police cars had rocks thrown at them and a football was booted at the police car.

"The football is now at the police station and will be free to collect if those responsible would like to come and see local officers.

"The team will continue to work in this area, so that the good people of Skelmersdale can go about their business without feeling intimidated."

McDonald's at the Concourse

Youngsters get the chance to be Creative at the Hub!

A VOLUNTARY group which provides creative provision and tuition for young people from Skelmersdale and the surrounding areas of West Lancashire is currently holding graffiti workshops for seven to 19-year-olds.

The Creative Hub, based at Greetby Place, Rasy Gillbrands, specialises in music, graffiti, art, photography and 'all things creative'.

Some of the youngsters getting creative at The Creative Hub

Amazing

At the workshops, held every other Saturday, young people are taught how to draw out designs and transfer them onto art on the wall.

Creative Hub director, Chris Pate, said: "The feedback and results have been amazing and it's so good for the local youth who, as far as we can tell, have nowhere else in the area to take part in such activities."

During the weekdays schools have started to send young people who struggle in the academic surroundings of school to the Hub where they are taught art of any form in a safe and encouraging environment.

Chris added: "We have huge graffiti walls for them to learn how to spray paint properly and legally.

"We also have a music studio for writing and recording music and a studio for photography and video making.

"We provide team-building activities and personal/social training, and have seen extraordinary advancements in the young people we look after so far.

"Recently Lathom High School pupils made canvasses out of old pallets and painted their idols with acrylic and air brush paint.

"We can literally do anything in this place."

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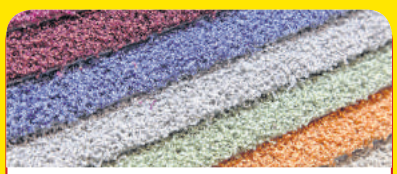

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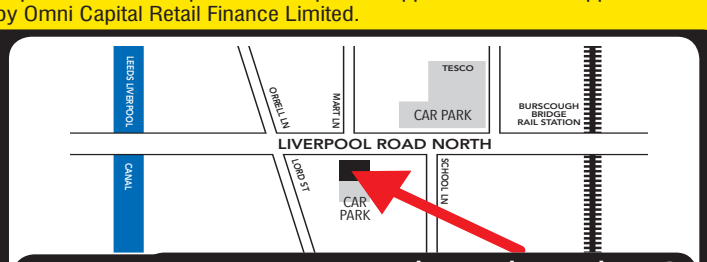

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The North West Spinal Injuries Unit team - one of the winners at last year's Pride Awards

Call for businesses to back NHS heroes

BUSINESSES across the area are being invited to help support and celebrate the vital work of NHS staff in hospitals and in the community.

The Pride Awards, now in their ninth year, celebrate the excellence and professionalism of health employees who work at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust.

The awards are also an opportunity for staff to recognise the achievements of one another and for patients to highlight staff who have given outstanding care.

The trust is keen to hear from businesses and organisations across West Lancashire, Southport, Formby and the North West who would be interested in giving financial support to this year's Pride Awards.

A number of sponsorship opportunities are available for each of the award categories.

Interim chief executive, Iain McInnes, said: "The Pride Awards are a fantastic opportunity for our community to help celebrate their NHS heroes.

"We are grateful to our existing sponsors for their continuing support but I know there will be many others who want to show their appreciation to staff by supporting this event."

Companies or organisations interested in sponsorship can contact Joanne Chorley at the trust on 01704 704714 or email joanne.chorley@nhs.net.

The Pride Awards will be held at Southport Theatre and Convention Centre in June. Nominations for the Patient Award will open later this month.

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Retrospective planning permission bid for HMOs

AN application for retrospective planning permission has been submitted to West Lancs Council in respect of two homes in Ormskirk which have already been converted into student accommodation.

Applicant Evolve Property is seeking permission for Nos. 11A and 13A, Aughton Street to be used as five-bedroom houses of multiple occupation (HMOs).

Local residents have until Friday, February 24 to submit their views on the applications.

Wild goose found with bird flu at Martin Mere

Bosses say strain of disease has never transmitted to humans and centre remains open with precautions in place

Report by **Henry James**

A SINGLE, dead wild greylag goose has tested positive for bird flu at Martin Mere in Burscough - but bosses have been quick to point out that it is not a strain that has ever transmitted to humans and the centre remains open.

The strain was found at the centre on Friday, February 3.

Peter Morris from WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre, said: "This is not a strain of bird flu that has ever transmitted to humans.

"It has spread across Britain from Europe, we're simply detecting it as it passes through wild birds in the North West. This isn't a case of anyone closing or culling anything.

"We're not actually seeing unusual numbers of wild bird deaths at this time of year, just a handful among tens of thousands of birds you can still see at Martin Mere. So it's largely business as usual for visitors and we are open every day as always.

Restricted

"But we are very, very mindful that a lot of people locally keep or farm birds or go to other nature reserves, so we're making sure we stop anyone inadvertently transporting the disease in or out on their footwear, hands or equipment. This is for the benefit of ourselves and all our neighbours.

"We have disinfectant mats at all entrances and exits, vehicle movements on and off the reserve are being restricted, and we've taken all practical steps to separate wild birds from our collection of wildfowl.

"The government is relying on wardens at nature reserves including Martin Mere to be out at first light every day looking hard for unusual signs.

"We are providing eyes on the ground, ahead of scavengers who quickly remove any evidence. So if we see avian influenza in wild birds, then bird keepers in the North West can assume it might also be in wild birds near you."

In January bird flu was found in a flock of 10,000 pheasants at a premises in Wyre, Lancashire. A number of the birds died and the remaining live birds at the premises were humanely culled.

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Residents urged to have their say about changes to 'low priority' and gluten-free prescribing

Report by **Henry James**

CCG proposal to stop funding of certain treatments available 'over the counter'

NHS WEST Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is proposing to make changes in relation to an area called 'low priority prescribing', in line with many other NHS organisations in Lancashire and nationally.

What this means for residents, is that the CCG proposes to stop the funding of certain types of medicines or treatments that are readily available 'over the counter' in pharmacies or on the shelves in shops and supermarkets.

The types of medicines and treatments that fall into this category include:

- Treatments for minor ailments, including medicines like paracetamol, ibuprofen, head lice lotion and indigestion tablets.
- Treatments where there is little evidence that they have a real clinical benefit, including cough syrups, nasal congestion sprays, sore throat products and vitamin supplements.
- Products that do not require clinical treatment, such as bath/shower products including shampoos for dandruff and mild acne creams.
- Gluten-free products.

In some cases, there will still be exceptions to this, such as the prescribing of these treatments for people with long-term conditions, for babies and children, for breastfeeding mothers or when caring for people at the end of their life.

Before these changes are made, the CCG would like to gather the views of residents to help ensure that the proposals are sound and the new prescribing policies are appropriate and also to learn any other information or interventions that may need to be put in place.

The CCG's proposals can be viewed on their website: www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk/. And residents can share their views by completing an online survey at www.po.st/LowGluten.

The survey will close on Friday, March 24 and a feedback report will be published in April.

Anyone wishing to contact the CCG about the survey and how to obtain a paper copy or anything else in relation to their local health service can email myview@westlancashireccg.nhs.uk, ring 01695 588 203 or write to: NHS West Lancashire CCG, Hilldale, Wigan Road, Ormskirk, L39 2JW.

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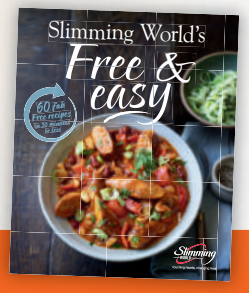

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Monday 9.15am
Paula: 07484 263698

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Monday 1.00pm
Sue: 07817444580

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Monday 6.30pm
Michelle: 07931125172

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
Monday 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
Monday 9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
Monday 5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Wardens Club, Blaguegate Lane,
Monday 5pm & 7pm
Kathy: 01695 423 658

TUESDAY
OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Wardens Club, Blaguegate Lane,
Tuesday 9.15 & 11.15am
Kathy: 01695 423 658

WEDNESDAY
BURSCOUGH
Burscough British Legion, Lord Street
Wednesday 3.30pm 5.30pm & 7.30pm
From 4th January
Kathy: 01695 423 658

FAZAKERLEY
British Legion, Longmoor Lane
Next to Shell Garage
Wednesday 5pm & 6.30pm
Eileen: 0151 548 0658

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
Wednesday 9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
Wednesday 5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
4.30 & 6.30pm
Sue: 07957 531 346

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
Wednesday 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
Up Holland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
Wednesday 9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

THURSDAY
AUGHTON
Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane
Thursday 8.00am & 10.00am
Zoe: 01695 580 966

AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut (behind Christ Church), Long Lane
Thursday 5.30 & 7.30pm
Zoe: 01695 580 966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
3.00pm 5:00pm & 7.00pm
Call Sue: 07957 531346

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
Thursday 9.30am & 11.30am
Jackie: 07888 830892

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
Thursday 4.30pm & 6.30pm
Jackie: 07888 830892

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The Cheshire Lines
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Sarah 07969 395302

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Hayley 07583 762529

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St Anne's School, Aughton St, Ormskirk
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Sue: 07817 444580

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Lydiate losers become winners!

A Slimming World member who transformed her own life by losing one and a half stone has been sharing the secrets of her success with members at the Lydiate Village Centre group. The Group opened on the 2nd January 2017 and in just five weeks the members have already lost over 11 stone in total.

Paula Skalyz felt so passionate about the difference it made to her life, by dropping from 10 stone 4 to 8 stone 11, and she wanted to help others lose weight too.

The Group opened its doors at The Lydiate Village Centre, Lambshear Lane and is growing in members each week.

Paula says "My weight was affecting my health, my cholestrol was an unhealthy 5.6 and I knew I needed to make a change. Joining Slimming World was the best decision I ever made – not only did I lose weight but my cholestrol level dropped to 4.4 too. There is no better feeling than seeing the benefits the members are experiencing already."

Slimming World's Food Optimising eating plan encourages slimmers to fill up on satisfying healthy foods like fruit, veg, pasta, rice, lean meat and fish so they can slim down without going hungry. Paula said she is amazed how she never goes hungry any more, she is able to maintain her target weight and she still enjoys her favourite foods such as chocolate!

Paula said "It's such a great feeling when you see members confidence grow as they shed pounds and become more healthy, one member has already lost a stone in just five weeks and many other members have already reached their half a stone weight award."

If you would like to find out more about joining the group, you can call Paula on 07484 263698 or just come along to the group which is held every Monday at 9.15am.

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Why do we have to wait so long for our rail link?

'THE train now leaving...'

We - Skelmersdale folk that is - will have to wait from seven to 10 years for the rail link project to be completed and in operation.

I just cannot understand why it will take so long for it to come to fruition. Is there a huge mountain range in the way?

I also wonder if there will be new pedestrian ways of getting to and from the railway station to the Concourse' and its environs?

Having not seen plans for the route of the track into the proposed site of the former campuses of Glenburn and Westbank colleges, I have been wondering if the track is going to be elevated or whether it will be dug into the land.

If the line comes across the moss from Rainford Junction, I am trying to second-guess how it would cross the M58 motorway, Gillibrands Road, and the B5312 Grimshaw Road, considering that provision has been left for a future flyover crossing of Bone Island at Southway, which I imagine would cause complications if an elevated track came down the side of Whiteledge Road from the Pimbo area.

Now it is game on to see which proposed venture - railway station or town centre - wins the race to be completed first.

Does anyone have the odds?

Bill Clarke, by email

Passengers are entitled to more than vague promises on safety from Merseyrail

WITH reference to the article about Merseyrail's plan to withdraw guards from some of its services (Champion, February 8), I think the public are entitled to be given rather more than vague promises about 'customer service positions' that will 'reassure' passengers.

Who will help disabled passengers at stations that have only personnel selling tickets, or indeed are unmanned for all or some part of the day?

And how will the safety of passengers be assured over weekends or at times of extreme demand, such as major events in Liverpool?

Murrray Steele, Ormskirk

30mph speed limit would surely improve safety on Ormskirk stretch of A59

IT surprises me that the A59/County Road through Ormskirk still has a 40mph speed limit, considering much of the road is a residential and/or retail area.

Surely it would make the road safer for pedestrians to cross if the speed limit was reduced to 30mph, and also make the road safer for drivers to pull out on to or cross at junctions such as Yew Tree Road or Burscough Road?

There are various sections of the A59 outside of Ormskirk where the speed limit is 30mph, improving the safety of pedestrians and other road users.

The full length of the A59 through Burscough, as well as Rufford, have long had a 30mph limit imposed, while Southport Road has more recently been reduced to 30mph, drastically improving road users' safety.

Compare this with County Road which has seen numerous accidents at various points, not to mention the dangerous Fiveways junction and the difficulty in crossing the road for both pedestrians and drivers.

If a 30mph speed limit was introduced it would surely go some way to improving the safety of all concerned.

B. Morris, Ormskirk

PICTURE of the week

Sticking your neck out has a whole new meaning! Swan rescue volunteer Len Golby was yet again out in the freezing cold to rescue this poorly swan after it was reported to be in distress on the Marine Lake

Has councillor had a change of heart on transport masterplan?

IN response to County Councillor David Westley's letter (Champion, February 1) I shouldn't have to remind him that he was the leader of West Lancs Borough Council in January 2014 when the West Lancashire Highways transport and masterplan went before his cabinet.

And on November 26, 2013 he actually took part in the LCC county councillor consultation as part in the consultation for the West Lancashire Highways transport and masterplan and where the following comments were documented: *The Ormskirk bypass, with a lively discussion of merits and disadvantages and the conclusion that whilst a bypass would be progressed in an ideal world, the decision to progress a package of smaller measures would allow progress to be made more quickly*.

The consultation goes on to say that *West Lancashire Borough Council does wish to lend their support to the Highways and Transport Masterplan for the borough*.

Is this a truly change of heart or political hypocrisy?

County Councillor Nikki Hennessy, Ormskirk West Division

Drop us a line...

■ IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors and are NOT necessarily endorsed or advocated in any way by Champion Newspapers.

No wonder NHS is on its knees when health tourists are taking us for mugs

I HAVE never been so angry and disgusted in all my life. I watched a programme on BBC2 called 'Hospital' for the first time last night and it is no wonder our NHS is on its knees.

I didn't manage to see all of it but what I did see really opened my eyes.

First of all there was a woman from Thailand who had a quadruple bypass heart operation in a hospital in this country.

She was in hospital for 41 days and altogether it cost the health service £59,OOO.

She has paid not one penny towards the cost but she has merrily gone on her way back home to Thailand.

The second woman had triplets here and the cost of looking after her and three babies came to £331,000.

She was from Ghana so she too will be back at home in her own country now.

The surgeon did speak to both of them about paying something towards what it had cost our NHS to treat them for all this time but neither of them has offered to pay anything at all and they are not likely to are they?

Why are we doing this? There are people in this country who have paid into the NHS since it first started and a lot of them are on a long waiting list for operations.

If people from foreign countries want to come here and use our hospitals for treatment they should pay in advance or have some kind of insurance.

They are taking us for mugs because they know they can get away with it.

It is time our government did something about it because they are draining what is left of the health service.

Mr Hunt needs to pull his finger out and do some proper work for a change.

I bet he would not let one of his relations be left on a trolley for hours on end because there are no beds for them.

Someone do something before it is too late.

P. Marshall, by email

Council have let university take control of our town

I HAVE to agree with Mr Harrocks' letter in the Champion (February 1) headed 'Why are council letting us become a ghost town'. Our council have let Ormskirk residents down.

The council would like the town renamed to include Edge Hill University and not recognise our heritage, which is a disgrace.

The shops in Ormskirk have sadly closed due to the change in population. We had lovely family shops in the town but unfortunately, the family houses are now student houses and the students do not require the 'family shops', hence the town is now unsuitable for family shopping.

I personally think the council are concentrating on Burscough because they have downgraded Ormskirk and don't know how to fix it.

They have let Edge Hill University take control of the town and the outcome is we are over-populated with students and the families have unfortunately moved out.

Sadly, until somebody takes control back for the residents I can't see a good future for the town.

Ormskirk resident, by email

Police issue web dating warning

By **Danielle Thompson**

OFFICERS from Lancashire Police's web team have put together a list of tips to stay safe while enjoying online dating.

Many West Lancs residents are using online dating sites as a way to meet people and form relationships and while many users have found their experiences to be fun, potential love-finders need to be aware of how to keep themselves, their bank account and savings protected while meeting people online.

The force have urged online daters to:

- Be anonymous
- Choose a username that doesn't let everyone know who you are and back it up with a strong password.
- Keep your contact details, such as your email address, where you live, or your phone number, private.
- Take things slowly and share more information only when you feel comfortable.
- Make sure you log out properly when accessing your account from a public or shared computer.
- Research your date online to make sure they are who they say they are.
- Don't go into a car alone with this stranger and always remain in public for the first few dates.

The force are urging residents to stay safe online

A spokesperson for Lancashire Constabulary added: "Let a friend know who you're meeting, where you're meeting, how to reach you and when you'll be home.

"Arrange for them to call you during the date so the date realises that someone knows where you are. If it's not going well, make an excuse and leave.

"If you're raped or sexually assaulted on your date, ring 999 in an emergency or report it on 101.

" If you feel unable to report it straight away, tell someone you trust, a friend or your GP.

"Lancashire Victim Services provide emotional support, information and practical help for free on 0300 323 0085.

A TARLETON man has celebrated turning an incredible 102 years old!

James Sutton' and his family warmly welcomed in the unsual milestone at Aaron Crest Nursing Home last week where he is now a resident. Speaking at his Birthday James (centre) told everyone about his very hectic life when he served in the Second World War, taking part in the Salerno invasion and even watching Mt Vesuvius erupt in 1944!

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Retiring Burscough library manager Carol Young (centre, front) with users at the Mill Lane library on her last day

Library users serve up a happy ending for stalwart Carol

LONG-serving Carol Young has reached the final chapter of her career after more than 36 years in the library service.

Carol, the last permanent manager of Burscough library, first started working in a temporary capacity as a 16-year-old at Maghull library in November 1980.

The following year she took up a permanent position at Ormskirk library where she spent most of her working life, apart from a two-year spell at Skelmersdale, before moving to Burscough in November 2011.

And the 53-year-old mother-of-two from Southport enjoyed a great send-off on her last day at the library in Mill Lane when she was inundated with cards, presents and good wishes from library-users.

Carol said: "I would like to thank all of the regular users for not abandoning Burscough library, despite all the rumours that it had closed.

"The library is still open and will remain open until a 'satellite' library opens at The Grove in Burscough once building work has been completed.

"And athough there will be no new manager, staff will be sent from other sites to keep Burscough library open in the meantime."

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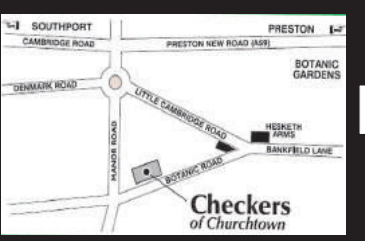

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Campaigners welcome Bishop's reservations over impact of fracking

by Danielle Thompson

MEMBERS of a West Lancs anti-fracking group have welcomed a leading clergyman's 'reservations' about the controversial shale gas harvesting process being permitted in the North West.

Borough councillor Maureen Mills and fellow members of the campaign group Halsall Against Fracking met up with the Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Reverend Paul Bayes to discuss the church's position on the process which the campaigners believe poses a significant safety threat due to fears of groundwater contamination, tremors while extracting and the release of gases into the air.

Last year it was revealed that gas and oil exploration company Aurora was undertaking a six-week geophysical survey north of Southport with a view to a possible future application for planning permission for exploratory drilling for fracking in the Sefton and West Lancashire area.

In December, a briefing paper from the Mission and Public Affairs Council and the Environment Working Group of the Church of England was released, which suggested that church officials, although sympathetic to communities' fears, were not against fracking if it was done in a regulated and monitored way.

Councillor Maureen Mills

Bishop Paul Bayes

However, Bishop Bayes said: "I share many of the worries voiced about the process and its impact on both the global and local environment. I agree with the Church of England's desire for a low-carbon energy future, but personally I remain to be convinced that fracking is a good way to help achieve this."

Councillor Mills told the Champion that the group planned to send more reports on the effects of fracking to church officials to review and have teamed up with other local campaign groups, including Frack Free Formby, to organise an open letter to landowners signed by local residents, along with public meetings to be held later this month.

She said: "We had an extremely useful meeting with Bishop Paul and he shares many of our concerns about fracking. We've been in touch since the briefing paper was issued and our dialogue will continue.

"The Church Commissioners have confirmed that they have not heard anything further from Aurora since the seismic survey and that they would be happy to attend a public meeting once the survey results have been released."

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Police chief backs campaign to scrap legal aid fees for victims of domestic abuse

Report by **Henry James**

"We need to ensure no-one is put off seeking the help they need because of costs like these"

LANCASHIRE's police and crime commissioner Clive Grunshaw has joined the campaign calling on Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt to scrap fees for domestic abuse victims seeking legal aid.

Clive Grunshaw

Due to recent changes in the law, domestic abuse victims now have to provide specific evidence to be able to apply for legal aid. One of the accepted forms of evidence is a letter from a GP - with some doctors charging fees ranging from £25 to £175 to provide these.

Concerns raised by the Labour party's deputy Tom Watson's 'scrap the fee' campaign have been echoed by 16 PCCs, including Mr Grunshaw, who have written to Jeremy Hunt, and Justice Secretary Liz Truss urging them to scrap the need for the letter all together.

Clive Grunshaw said: "Those seeking legal aid in domestic abuse cases are doing so for a reason and any extra financial barriers could put lives at risk.

"Financial control is often a big part of abusive relationships and legal aid can help victims of abuse seek vital protections to escape violence, protect their children and ensure the family home is safe.

"Not all GPs are charging at this level but enough are that we need the practice to stop.

'Vulnerable'

"Here in Lancashire I am continuing to work with the police and partners to ensure the best possible service for those affected by domestic abuse including expanding Lancashire Victim Services to deliver support.

"However, we need to ensure no-one is put off seeking the help they need because of costs like these."

Tom Watson, who first raised the issue following a visit to a support centre for victims and survivors of domestic abuse, said: "I'm delighted that police and crime commissioners across the country have backed my scrap the fee campaign.

"People suffering domestic abuse are already incredibly vulnerable. We should be taking action to help them, not demanding payment for a letter they need to access justice.

"The government should scrap this unfair, immoral fee now. It has to stop."

Not all GPs apply the charges and the amounts vary but the campaign is calling for the service to be provided under the NHS so fees are abolished.

Stephanie is a cut above

HAIRDRESSER Stephanie Field proved a cut above when she scooped an award in a prestigious regional award scheme.

Stephanie Field, who works at the Andrew Collinge salon in Wheatsheaf Walk, Ormskirk was named as the senior stylist of the year at company's the 2017 awards ceremony in Liverpool. The awards are open to staff at the company's franchises across the North West.

Company' founder, Andrew Collinge, said: "This year's awards were truly fantastic we love doing something different each year and rewarding our staff for all the hard work they do throughout the year. Each year the standard gets higher and higher and I have to say this year we have seen exceptional talent."

Stephanie (centre) with her award and Liz and Andrew Collinge

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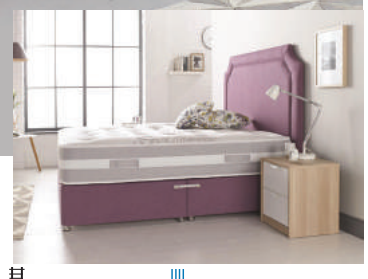

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Martin Mere news

Volunteer your time and meet new people at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre is looking for enthusiastic volunteers of all ages to come and join our education, visitor services and canoe safari team this Spring.

Volunteer Development Officer, Amy Hannah, said: "We now have over 180 volunteers at Martin Mere. Nationally, we have over 900 volunteers, we quite simply couldn't function without them. Volunteering gives opportunities, our youngest 16 year olds volunteer to stand out on their university applications, whilst our mature volunteers can learn new skills and meet new friends. In fact our oldest volunteer was 89 years old which shows it is never too late to come and volunteer at Martin Mere."

The roles that the Centre specifically needs to recruit are volunteers to work with our education team to do weekend and holiday activities which could include duck hunts, pond dipping, family crafts and taking part in Downy Duckling Week; in addition volunteers are needed to help with the canoe safari attraction to join the team offering this award winning facility; and also to meet and greet visitors on our visitor services team.

For more information about volunteering call the centre on 01704 891220 during the week, email: info.martinmere@wwt.org.uk or go online to complete an application at: http://www.wwt.org.uk/support/volunteer-with-wwt/volunteering-opportunities/

WWT Martin Mere is open every day from 9.30am to 4.30pm and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site http://www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere/ to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

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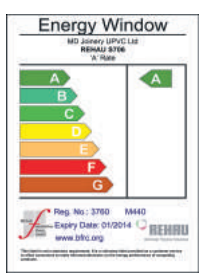

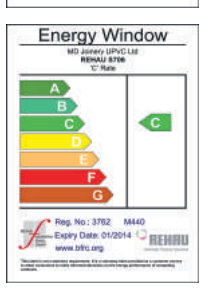

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Free guide to borough's 2017 countryside events available

ANYONE wanting to find out more about the free events taking place in West Lancashire's great outdoors this year can now get a copy of the council's 2017 Parks and Countryside Events programme.

Major events planned for later in the year by the West Lancashire Borough Council Parks and Countryside Ranger Service include the Medieval Weekend at Coronation Park, Ormskirk, on Saturday and Sunday, May 13 and 14, and the Green Fayre at Beacon Country Park on Saturday and Sunday, July 22 and July 23.

The programme also includes a wide range of walks, concerts, and events for the whole year, including opportunities to volunteer and help make the parks look even nicer.

The free Parks and Countryside Events 2017 booklets are available from local libraries, community centres, information centres, leisure centres and the visitor centre at Beacon Country Park. The programme is also available to download from the website www.westlancs.gov.uk/countryside.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, the council's cabinet member for leisure, said: "We are really lucky to have so many wonderful parks and countryside sites on our doorstep.

"I would encourage everyone to enjoy some time at our upcoming events and in the great outdoors in 2017."

To receive an events programme through the post email your name and full address to beacon.park@westlancs.gov.uk or telephone 01695 622794.

West Lancashire Parks and Countryside Service manage 13 sites across the borough including the Green Flag Award-winning Beacon Country Park in Up Holland and Coronation Park in Ormskirk.

To find more about any of the sites visit www.westlancs.gov.uk/countryside.

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Trust reaffirms commitment to equality and diversity

LANCASHIRE Care Trust's Contraception and Sexual Health Service (CaSH) is reaffirming its commitment to equality and diversity during LGBT History Month.

Marked every year in February, the event aims to tackle prejudices about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community.

The CaSH service was amongst the first recipients to be awarded the Lancashire LGBT Quality Mark last year and commended for providing a service that is inclusive of LGBT communities.

The Quality Mark is part of an assurance programme for service providers that assists in measuring how well the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender service users, volunteers and staff are met.

Anji Stokes, community education lead for the CaSH team at Lancashire Care, said: "We were delighted to be awarded the LGBT Quality Mark, which is a testament to the commitment of our service in ensuring that the needs of all of our clients are met and health and wellbeing is promoted within all communities across Lancashire.

"No matter what your background, personal situation or sexual preference is, we encourage everyone to visit us and take their sexual health seriously.

"Our under-25s team provides a dedicated and professional service to all of our clients and LGBT clients can rest assured that they will be welcomed at all of our clinics."

LGBT History Month is a month-long annual observance of lesbian gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements.

To contact your local CaSH team or find out about drop-ins call 01772 401140. There are clinics in various locations and different session times across Lancashire. To find out more about services in your area, visit www.lancashire-care.nhs.uk/cash-lancashire.

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I wish someone could give me the handbook on dreams!

I DON'T think I could describe myself as a dreamer, although I do dream a lot - every night.

Now I've heard a lot about the 'significance' of dreams and the importance of having them and though mine have changed over the years (though perhaps oddly I've never dreamt of falling which is possibly a good thing) they do seem to come in groups.

At any given time, my nightly dreams tend to remain much the same - or these days more like serial instalments - for quite a period of time. Which is good if I happen to be enjoying them, but not so if they are either unpleasant or just plain boring.

Many years ago now (when I was drinking rather a lot which may explain it) my nightly dreams tended towards what I can only describe as Gothic.

They included roaming around the outside of ancient churches with crumbling stone walls and brambles and behind that a rolling hillside which, when climbed, led to a lonely cottage which turned out to be rather like the funhouse at a fair, except that it really was not funny.

Yes, it included walls and floor set at angles, just like the 'real' thing, but my exploration always led to a room in which there was a single, over-stuffed armchair. And though I always felt compelled to do so, I simply knew that if I sat on it, something genuinely awful would follow. I never did.

But all this - the ruined church, the thistle-speckled hillside, the lonely house, the search through twisted corridors, the room (which had pink rose wallpaper) and that ghastly chair awaiting me - happened most nights, and always as horrible as before because I knew, somewhere in my mind, that all this would happen, even though I also thought it had never happened before. Odd. What Sigmund Freud would have made of it goodness knows.

Then there was another recurring dream, featuring both my dad and brother, where we were walking in a feature-less, totally flat landscape along a completely straight road until we reached a crossroads. Once there we could see a megolithic concrete shopping mall surrounded by a car park.

Inside it was much like the Albert Dock in Liverpool, through which you could wander on several levels. And nothing happened, except that we got separated and I always ended up outside wandering through the huge car park towards the road we had arrived at, looking for dad and George, (no panic though) and wondering how often there was a bus home! It seemed then (and still does) that this whole thing was fairly pointless.

At present, my dreams are either of taking part in one of those daytime TV quizzes - again it never really gets anywhere - or they concern my river cruiser, *Manxman*. During the night we have successfully navigated rapids (both down and up!), *Manxman* has considerably grown in size, we have had guests aboard whose presence I continually forgot until one or more got in my way with daft suggestions as to where we should go and how to get there.

But it is never a disaster movie. Nothing - at least nothing terminal - ever happens. Last night for example I tied her up at a river bank (very much resembling the Leeds-Liverpool canal) and walked down to a swing bridge, of which there are actually none in Norfolk.

Crossing the bridge and walking back on the opposite bank, it failed to surprise me that *Manxman* had somehow turned round and was now moored on this bank facing in the opposite direction. It had started to rain, the cockpit roof was slid back, and a miserable collection of 'guests' were huddled there along with some official who explained that they had been worried about the children - of which there were none!

If any or all of this is in any way beneficial to me, or is some kind of coded message, I just wish someone would give me the handbook!

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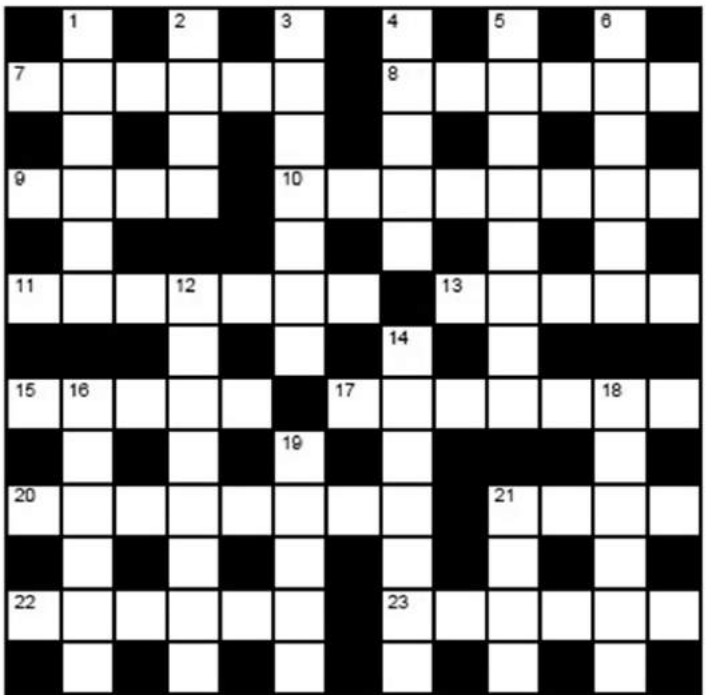

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Averse. 8 Boldly. 9 Grid. 10 Advocate. 11 Open air. 13 Heron. 15 Eager. 16 New Year. 18 Virtuoso. 19 Loch. 21 Bust-up. 22 Except.

Down: 1 Over. 2 Trading estate. 3 Regalia. 4 Above. 5 Clickety-click. 6 Plethora. 12 Platinum. 14 Devoted. 17 Corps. 20 Cape.

ACROSS

7. Room to manoeuvre (6)
8. A token of victory (6)
9. To impose a tax (4)
10. Unwelcome visitor (8)
11. Spanish nobleman (7)
13. Bear-like animal with distinctive black and white markings (5)
15. In preparation or progress (5)
17. Relating to or resulting from motion (7)
20. Point-scoring card game in which the score is kept on a board (8)
21. Big Ben for instance (4)
22. Hard glossy substance that covers the crown of a tooth (6)
23. Become less severe or intense (6)

DOWN

1. Native of Arab republic in Western Asia (6)
2. Not at home (4)
3. Instrument used to inject or withdraw fluids from the body (7)
4. Condition (5)
5. Colonise (8)
6. Astute (6)
12. Nuclear weapon first deployed at Hiroshima in 1945 (4, 4)
14. Gun (7)
16. Currency of Hungary 6)
18. Tract of land completely surrounded by water (6)
19. Military sortie or a girl's name (5)
21. Bitter alkaline fluid secreted by the liver which aids digestion (4)

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Independent group welcomes Park Pool improvements

MEMBERS of the independent Our West Lancashire (OWL) group have welcomed news that a new steam room is being installed at Park Pool which they claim is a result of a year-long campaign.

A statement issued by OWL said that complaints from residents about the old steam room frequently breaking down prompted them to start making regular inspections at the Ormskirk pool 12 months ago.

Councillor Adrian Owens, the group's representative for Derby ward on West Lancs Council, said: "The new steam room is the latest in a series of improvements. We've seen a refit of the gym; new furniture and lighting in the ground-floor viewing and refreshment area; refurbishment of family changing rooms, lockers and showers.

"It's fair to say that there has been a sea change in the approach and attitude at Park Pool since the public petition we raised led to the Labour-led council abandoning closure proposals for the pool.

And he added: "The change in fortunes can be traced to the rapid U-turn made by the council after their closure proposal met with a huge public outcry.

"Before there seemed to be an unspoken view that Park Pool should be run down. Since then there is renewed investment and Our West Lancashire will continue to watch closely and continue our inspections to ensure that the borough's most popular public leisure centre has a secure future."

Councillor Owens

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County council bid to improve adult social care and make annual savings of £17.8m

LANCASHIRE County Council chiefs have signed up to a programme which they believe will improve adult social care in the county while at the same time making savings.

The authority has teamed up with Newton Europe Ltd. in the scheme, known as the Passport to Independence, with the aim of providing a better service and helping people to remain independent for as long as possible while creating savings of nearly £18million a year.

It is hoped to reduce the numbers going into long-term residential care and help patients to return home more quickly after leaving hospital.

The contract is based on securing a minimum annual saving to the county council of £17.8m and possibly up to £30m.

County Councillor Tony Martin, Lancashire's cabinet member for adult and community services, said: "As in the rest of the country, the health and social care sector in Lancashire is under extreme pressure. More people are living longer but often with ill-health and other needs in their later years. At the same time, central government funding for social care has failed to keep pace with demand.

"Here in Lancashire we are facing a £95m funding gap for social care in 2020/21. Faced with these challenges we are changing the way we work and have brought in specialist expertise to help people in Lancashire be as independent as possible for as long as possible.

"We want to make sure that people have the care they need and we will then stay in regular contact with them to adjust their level of support, if necessary, rather than waiting for a crisis.

"Achieving these results would significantly improve the service we offer and help to make the savings we need to ensure that we can continue to provide these services in the future."

County Councillor Tony Martin

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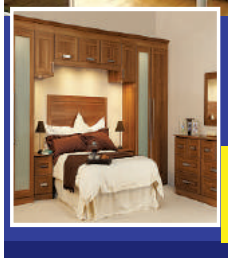

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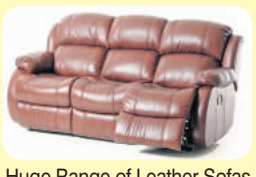

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Siblings strike gold on reading trail

SIBLINGS Jack and Lucy Lea are the latest young bookworms to win gold awards for successfully completing the Lancashire Reading Trail at Burscough Library.

To win the award - as well as a certificate and a free book of their choice - eight-year-old Jack and five-year-old Lucy had to read and write reviews for 50 books each.

Youngsters wishing to take part in the Reading Trail can find out information at their local Lancashire library.

Jack and Lucy Lea with their prizes for completing the Lancashire Reading Trail

Church to host Dementia Friends information event

AS part of the West Lancashire Dementia Action Alliance, featured in last week's Champion, the CLM (Cottage Lane Mission) Church in Ormskirk is teaming up with Alzheimer's Society to run a free Dementia Friends information session for local residents.

This will be held at the church in Cottage Lane on Wednesday, February 22 starting at 10am.

The one-hour session will be led by Amanda Boult, a local dementia support worker for Alzheimer's Society, and afterwards she will be available for the rest of the morning for one-to-one consultations or help with advice on specific situations.

Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Friends programme is the biggest-ever initiative to change people's perceptions of dementia. It aims to transform the way the nation thinks, talks and acts about the condition.

The CLM Church in Ormskirk

Dementia Friends is about learning more about dementia and the small ways you can help. From telling friends about the Dementia Friends programme to visiting someone you know living with dementia, every action counts.

There are currently 850,000 people living with the condition in England.

Anyone wanting to attend the Dementia Friends session can ring CLM Church on 01695 574103, email info@clmchurchormskirk.org.uk or book through the Dementia Friends website dementiafriends.org.uk.

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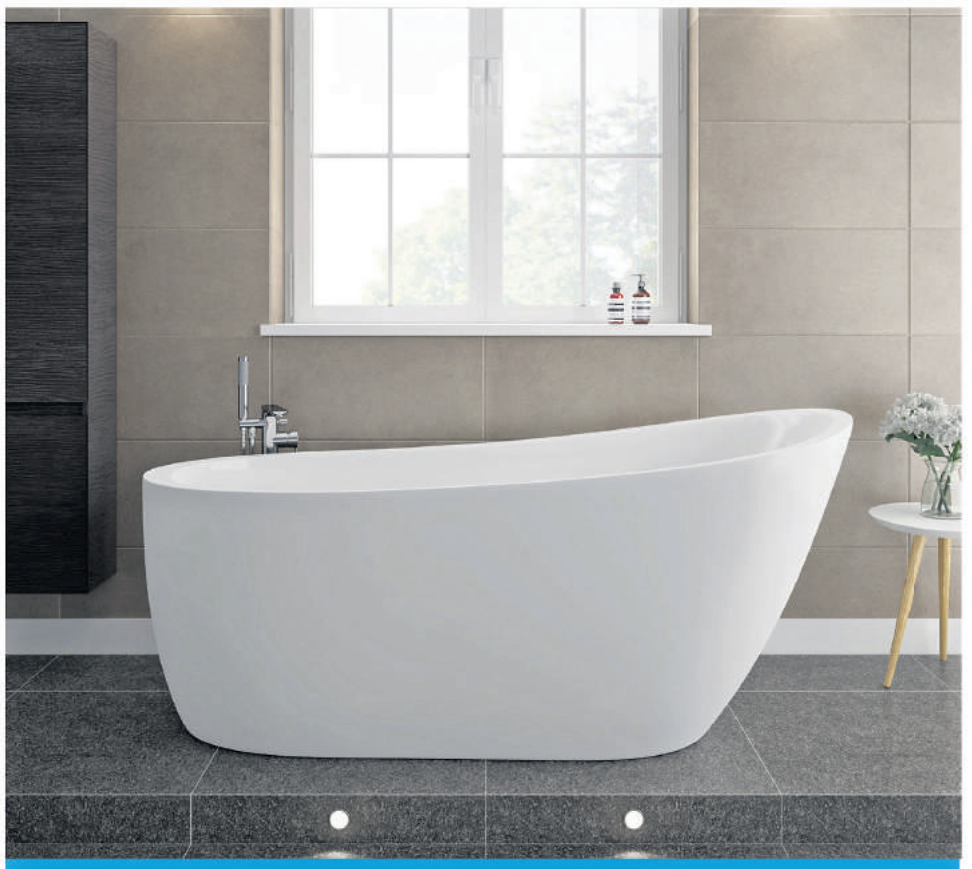

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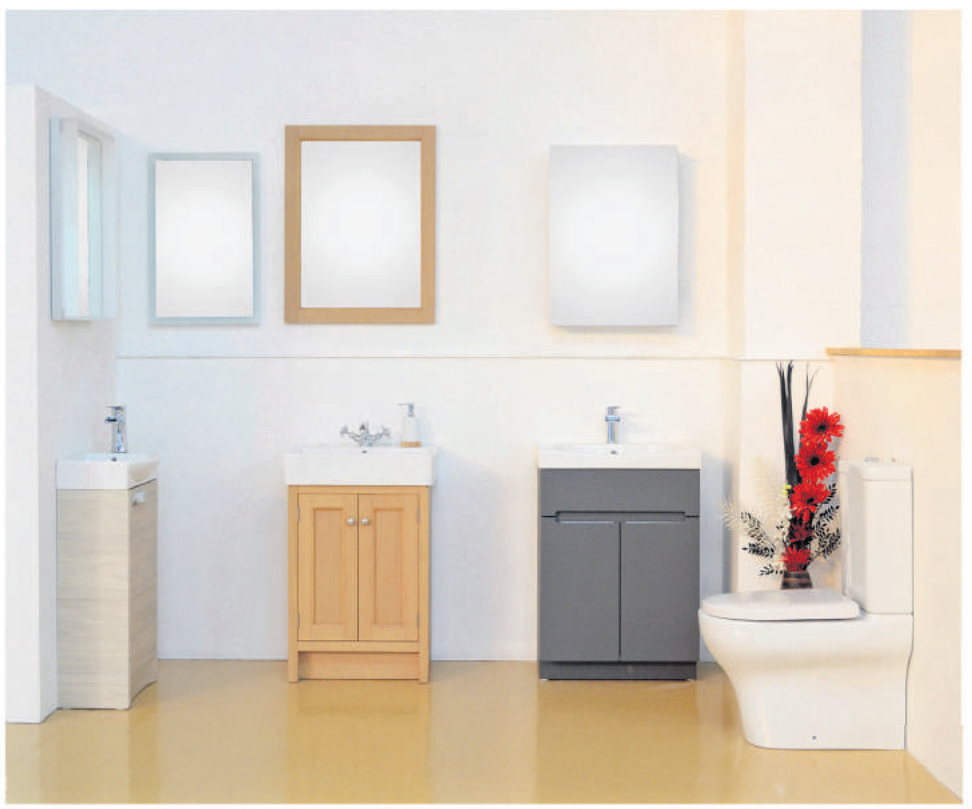

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Free, family-friendly events at Chapel Gallery this half-term

THE Chapel gallery is hosting free, family-friendly activities led by professional artists Sharon Kelly and Andy Shaw during the school half-term holidays.

Children of all ages and their families are invited to go along to the free drop-in sessions at the gallery in St Helens Road, Ormskirk between 10.30am and 12.30pm and 1.30 and 3.30pm on Friday, February 17.

Entitled 'Spinners and Spirographs', the sessions offer youngsters a chance to create an arty spinner to cover with a multitude of Spirograph artwork and watch their design come to life at the twist of your hand.

Although these are drop-in sessions, numbers are limited so early attendance is advised.

There are also free and fun gallery-based activities throughout the venue, from making colourful patterned tiles to creating characters from modelling clay.

And visitors can also find out about the council-run gallery's Art Club for creative young people.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, West Lancs Council's cabinet member for leisure, said: "Chapel Gallery half-term activities are always great fun for the whole family, so make sure you don't miss these great events."

For more information visit www.westlancs.gov.uk/chapelgallery or www.chapelgallery.org.uk.

The Chapel Gallery

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Online platform for county's business community re-launched

AN online platform which aims to give businesses across Lancashire a way to share their news online quickly has been re-launched.

Lancashire Business View, a magazine for commerce, industry and regeneration, has re-launched its platform as LBV Hub: Reloaded.

It has been reinvented to provide the Lancashire business community with a host of new benefits including enhanced business directory listing, images and social sharing and allows members to publish news, announcements, opinion pieces, event dates and special offers.

● For more information, visit lancashirebusinessview.co.uk

Sun journalists banned from Anfield, press conferences and training ground

Report by **Tom Martin**

LIVERPOOL FC has banned journalists from The Sun newspaper from covering matches at Anfield – and there are calls for Everton to now follow suit.

The Reds announced on Friday (February 10) that reporters from the national paper would no longer be welcome at the stadium's press box or at their Melwood training complex.

It comes 28 years after The Sun published a malicious front page story about the 1989 Hillsborough disaster, which placed the blame on Liverpool fans under the headline 'The Truth'.

The decision has been made after talks were held between the club and a campaign group called Total Eclipse of the S*n, and many are hoping that the Reds' neighbours at Goodison Park will now do the same.

A spokesperson for the group posted on Friday: "Further to conversations with club directors we are happy to inform members that S*n 'journalists' no longer enjoy access to all Liverpool Football Club premises. Thanks to all. We move on."

The Hillsborough Family Support Group posted on social media that they welcome the decision, but that chairperson Margaret Aspinall said "I don't want to give that scum any further publicity so have no other comment".

Actor Damien Lewis with a campaigner outside Anfield

Hundreds of Liverpool fans gathered outside Anfield on Saturday, February 11 before a home Premier League match with Tottenham to show support for the decision.

One familiar face was Hollywood actor and Reds fan Damien Lewis, who was pictured with a fellow campaigner holding an anti-The Sun poster.

The newspaper has been hated by many in Merseyside since its 1989 coverage of the Hillsborough tragedy, when 96 Liverpool fans were unlawfully killed.

Many newsagents still choose not to sell it and several local authorities, including West Lancs Council have backed a campaign to encourage shop owners not to stock it.

The Sun said the move was "bad for fans and bad for football."

Knitters' group birthday celebration

MEMBERS of the Burscough Knit and Natter group have celebrated their sixth anniversary.

The group meets at 1pm every Thursday at The Farmers Arms in New Lane for a 'knit and a natter' with crochet and spin also on the menu! Anyone wishing to join is welcome to go along on Thursday or ring Carole on 07931356 204.

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Win tickets to musical

AWARD winning musical Thoroughly Modern Millie is set to tour the UK in 2017 and is playing the Liverpool Empire Theatre from February 20 to 25 and the Champion has three pairs of tickets to give away for the show.

World Ballroom Showdance Champion Joanne Clifton will play Millie Dillmount!

Winner of six Tony Awards, Thoroughly Modern Millie is based on the film. To be in with a chance to win tickets, answer the following question – How many Tony Awards did the show win? Answers to henry.james@champnews.com by February 17 at 12 noon. Please supply your address and a contact number.

Joanne Clifton as Millie

Show offered a 'night of nostalgia'

Round The Horne 50th Anniversary Tour
Southport Theatre

Review by **Ron Ellis**

THE BBC's legendary comedy show, Round the Horne, written by Barry Took and Marty Feldman, was a follow on from radio's Beyond our Ken and ran from 1965-1968. Repeats can still be heard today on Radio Four Extra.

Hearing it now was like a trip back in time but, for those few people in the audience unlikely to have been born when it was first aired, it would be a culture shock. Anyone more used to modern comics like Frankie Boyle would probably be amazed that so many people laughed at such innocent material.

Of course, this sort of innuendo-based comedy was the staple diet of music hall and variety, viz Max Miller and George Formby, but surely it cannot have the same effect today.

The most popular characters in the show, the totally camp Julian & Sandy, spoke in Polari, a secret language used by gays to avoid imprisonment. Nowadays, people would think it ridiculous when men kissing each other on screen is a regular occurrence.

Similarly, young people watching the licentious groping in Apple Tree Yard on TV recently would be bemused at ladies being advised to 'keep their hands on their threepenny bit'.

Julian Howard McDowell sounded so like Kenneth Horne that you could be forgiven for thinking he had come back from the dead for the occasion. Colin Elmer looked and acted just like Kenneth Williams as he went through his Julian & Sandy, J. Peasemold Gruntfuttock and Rambling Syd Rumpo routines.

Alex Scott Fairley as Hugh Paddick and Eve Winters as Betty Marsden had the Charles and Fiona, a pair of Noel Coward 'dahlings', off to perfection. Nick Wymer played M.C. Douglas Smith and Conrad Segal provided sound effects and musical accompaniment.

Those who enjoyed Round the Horne in its prime, would have loved this show, dated or not.

STAR RATING: 6 out of 10. A night of nostalgia.

Music of The Bee Gees lives on

You Win Again
(The Bee-Gees Story)
Southport Theatre

THE Bee Gees were up there alongside The Beatles as the finest songwriters of their generation and 20 of their compositions were performed during the evening, from their first hit, New York Mining Disaster in 1967, to their final chart topper, with Celine Dion, in a star-studded career which produced 31 years of hit records writes Ron Ellis.

Martin Spooner (Robin), Yvan Silva {Maurice) from Brazil on keyboards and Rowan Lyle (Barry) (Guitar) played the Brothers Gibb, augmented by a guitarist and drummer, and opened the show with the title song but, although the dark glasses, haircuts and clothes bore a reasonable resemblance to the group's image, they never were able to quite capture the distinctive Bee Gees falsetto sound and there was little rapport between them and the audience.

The programme stated that 'guest performers portraying some of the biggest singers in the business' would be performing but, in fact, only one appeared on the night, a lady called Heather Read, who sang Immortality, the song The Bee Gees wrote for, and sang with, Celine Dion.

In the end, without all the razzamatazz and expensive trappings, (smokes and mirrors), what we were left with was a musically highly competent band singing popular songs that everyone in the audience knew and enjoyed.

As the second rendition of You Win Again finished, the group took their bow and then quickly reappeared and invited the audience to get on their feet and dance to a 'disco medley'. To a one, everybody obediently rose, waved their hands in the air and sang along. The party was on. 6/10

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Tuesday 21st
I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T A CLUE
Thursday 23rd
ONE NIGHT IN NASHVILLE
A celebration of country's greatest hits
Saturday 25th

March
YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND THE MUSIC OF JAMES TAYLOR AND CAROLE KING
Friday 3rd
THE ILLEGAL EAGLES
Friday 10th
BEYOND THE BARRICADE
The greatest songs in musical theatre
Friday 10th (Floral Hall)
WHITNEY – QUEEN OF THE NIGHT
Saturday 11th
MR BLOOM'S NURSERY – LIVE!
Monday 13th (1pm & 4pm)
THE MAGIC OF MOTOWN
Friday 17th
DREAMBOATS AND PETTICOATS
Monday 20th – Saturday 25th

April
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Saturday 1st
TOTALLY TINA
Friday 7th
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Southport Dramatic Club

Sensational value Hotel Breaks

All dates include Dinner, Bed & Breakfast!

Wales

Risboro Hotel, Llandudno

★Candlelit Cabaret Night All Dates★

• Lift • Car Park • Entertainment • Indoor Pool

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
17, 24 Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 21 Apr	20, 27 Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr
from £49.95	from £89.95

Ambassador Hotel, Llandudno

★On the prom - fabulous views!★

• Seafront • Lift • Car Park (fee)

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
17, 24 Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 21 Apr	20, 27 Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr
from £55	from £89.95

2/4 Nights from £49.95

Flying Scotsman Special!

1 Night only £99.95 SUNDAY 1 Apr

Ride aboard the Flying Scotsman included!

- Overnight dinner, bed & breakfast at the Britannia Hotel, Bramhope, Nr Harrogate
- Free parking at hotel and coach transfers to/from Oxenhope Station (departs hotel 08:45 Mon - return from station at 15:00)
- 70 minute round trip aboard Flying Scotsman plus unlimited steam train rides aboard other locomotives.

Blackpool

1/2/3/4 Nights from £34.95

New President Hotel

Excellent seafront hotel, near North Pier, owned by the Walsh family for many years and featured on BBC TV's 'Hotel on Sea'! Lift. Car Park (fee). Entertainment.

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★3 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
from £55	£99 from £95	£89 from £95
17, 24 Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 21 Apr 5, 12, 19 May	Good Fri 14 Apr Bank Hol 28 Apr Bank Hol 26 May Bank Hol 25 Aug	20, 27 Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May

Savoy Hotel

A popular and intimate Blackpool hotel situated on the quieter North Shore. Car park.

2 for 1 Drinks

★1 Night Arrive Sunday	★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★3 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
£34.95	from £55	£89 from £95	£99 from £95
19, 26 Feb 5, 19, 26 Mar 7, 14, 21 May 4, 11, 18, 25 Jun	17 Feb 3, 17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 21 Apr 5, 12 May	17 Feb 3, 17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 14, 21, 28 Apr 5, 12, 26 May	20, 27 Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May

Book now or Call for Brochure

ukbreakaways.com

0844 682 2595

Subject to availability. Calls cost 7p per minute plus your network access charge.

Ponting's Half Board, Prestatyn

★Kids 2-13 Half Price★

• Classic accommodation • Linens & towels included

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
£49.95 from	£89.95 from
10, 17, 24, 31 Mar 14 Apr 5, 19, 26 May	27 Mar 3, 17, 24 Apr 1, 15, 22, 29 May

Britannia Hotel, Nottingham

★2 for 1 BAR DEALS 6pm-9pm selected dates★

• Central location • Lift

★2 Nights Arrive Wednesday	★2 Nights Arrive Friday
£69.95	£85
5*, 12*, 19*, 26* Apr 3*, 10*, 17*, 23*, 31* May 7*, 14*, 21*, 28* Jun	17, 24 Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Mar 7, 21 Apr

Britannia Hotel, Bramhope, Nr Harrogate

★2 for 1 BAR DEALS 6pm-9pm selected dates★

• Lift • Car Park • Indoor Pool

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
£59.95 from	£139.95 from
17*, 24* Feb 3*, 10*, 17*, 24*, 31* Mar 7, 21 Apr	20*, 27* Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May

Daresbury Park Hotel, Nr Chester

★Visit Liverpool or Chester Zoo!★

• Lift • Car Park • Indoor Pool

★2 Nights Arrive Friday	★4 Nights Arrive Monday
£69.95 from	£119.95 from
17, 24 Feb 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Mar 21 Apr	20, 27 Feb 6, 13, 20, 27 Mar 3, 10, 17, 24 Apr

MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY 26TH MARCH 2017

Broccoli and Blacksticks Blue Soup *Served with a home baked bread roll*
Chicken Liver Pate *Smooth chicken liver pate, with homemade spiced fruit chutney & toasted ciabatta*
Prawn, Crayfish and Crab Cocktail
Served with homemade brown bloomer, herby leaf and Marie rose sauce.
Black Pudding & Bacon Stack
Grilled black pudding and bacon with a wholegrain, thyme and baby onion cream sauce.
Melon Assiette
Melon Assiette served with a strawberry and basil salsa
Grilled Flat Mushroom
Topped with roasted peppers and a garlic & herb cream cheese, served with herby leaf salad and balsamic dressing
Tempura King Prawns (£2.50 supplement)
King prawns in a light tempura batter served with sweet chilli dip and salad leaves
****
Roast sirloin of beef *British sirloin of beef served slightly pink with a Yorkshire pudding*
Roast leg of lamb *Carved roast leg of lamb served with rich roast gravy & mint sauce*
Roast turkey *Served with traditional stuffing & cranberry sauce*
Roast Loin of Pork *Served with apple sauce, stuffing & crackling*
Pan seared chicken breast *Served with a roast shallot, cherry tomato and tarragon cream sauce*
Oven roasted salmon supreme *Served with a creamy leek and smoked salmon sauce*
Char-grilled sirloin steak (£4.99 Supplement) *Cooked to your liking with hand cut chips, grilled tomato and a port and stilton sauce*
Walnut, pesto and wild mushroom fettuccini *Wild mushroom & pesto served on ribbon pasta with a cream sauce, topped with honey toasted walnut*
****
2 COURSES - £17.99
Desserts and Coffee also available Children's menu available for under 10's
£10 non-refundable deposit required to secure table

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Friday 24th February

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MARTIAL ARTS

Tai Chi Beginners class
Starting 27th February
Haskayne Village Hall
(near Ormskirk)
Monday morning 10am-11am
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www.liverpooltaichi.com

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FAIRS & SALES

ATTIC SALE
SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2017
Lydiate Parish Hall · Southport Road· Lydiate
L31 43Q on the 300 bus route
(near the Scotch Piper on A5147)
8am Sellers • 9am to 1pm Buyers
Refreshments • Admission 30p • Free Parking
To book a stall telephone 07955 901681

BURSCOUGH ATTIC SALE
Grab a bargain this Sunday
SUNDAY 19th FEBRUARY 10am - 3pm
Varied stalls, hot & cold refreshments
The Old Peoples Club L40 4BZ
Lord Street, Burscough Village Centre near Wharf
FREE ADMISSION ENQ. 07720 557387

ADVERTISING FEATURE
FORMBY VINTAGE & USED GUITAR MART
SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2017
This Sunday 19th February see's the return Formby's Vintage & used Guitar Mart taking place at The Gild Hall Formby. Bring along your old guitar or stringed instrument for a free valuation.
What more could you want, dozens of stands displaying lots of Vintage & used guitars, Ukulele's and banjo's to try or buy, a great day out for all guitar enthusiasts. Buy, sell or trade guitars. There is also plenty of advice on offer for people new to the guitar.
The event is open at 11.00am to 3.30pm, entrance is £3.00 (under 12' free accompanied) no need for tickets pay at the door.
For further info contact: Ken Dixon Tel 07974582011
or Email: kendixon34@hotmail.com
Website: www.b-visible.co.uk/mojoguitars

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Millie Rose Charity Stall
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Monday - Saturday 8am - 5pm • Sunday 10am - 4pm
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143 Southport New Road, Tarleton PR4 6HX

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BIKES

LADIES & GENTS Mountain bikes, lightweight alloy frames, virtually unused. £50 each. 01704 893118

ELECTRIC FOLDING BIKE Viking Harrier 20 inch wheel black pedal assist. As new 6 months old. £375 01704 469119

STOWABIKE men's large frame folding, dual suspension mountain bike, grey, hardly used £60. 07956 396659

BMX BIKE united supreme 2015 blue custom bars and grips complete with gyro excellent bargain £150 01515319425/07773242918

CLIFTON ROAD BIKE 23" 531 steel, campah gears, new tyres and tubes £80 0151 5268904

PAIR OF road sprint wheels, Campag quire release hubs on Fiamme rims £25. Pair Suntour quick release hubs £20 0151 5268904

3 BIKES childs and teenage mountain bike, both with front and rear suspension. Also adult alloy bike all need gears sorting £25 07803 167909

RALEIGH MOUNTAIN bike, gents, full size, shimano gears, good clean bike £45 01704214498

BIKE/STABILISERS Apollo Honey Bear, 9'' frame, pink/yellow, suit 4-5 years £10 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

BOY'S BIKE Pro-kinetic Universal, suit age 10+. 2 brand new tyres - good condition. Black/Red. £20 07855222552/07821417560

MOUNTAIN BIKE ladies, good condition, first to see will buy £35 Southport 214498

CLOTHING

SNOW BOOTS Very warm waterproof snow boots size 4 suit boy or girl. As new £5 07894043048

DIAMANTÉ HEELS Size 4 in pink. Never worn. High heels with sparkle diamantés all over the heals. Bargain £5 07894043048

LEATHER BOOTS Brand new from Evans in brown size 6 fit EEE £10 01695 420950

LADIES DRESSES 10 Karen Millen and Ted Baker dresses, size 14, hardly worn, must be seen. £20 each - bargain 07771 767709

BOYS BROWN padded Timberland gilet, beige Timberland zip jumper included, never worn £20 ovno, age 6 or 7 0151 5316093

LADIES SUEDE Beige full length coat. Beautiful beige fake fur lining, 4 button fasten Atmosphere Size 10 £22 07858 462998

FLYING JACKET Ladies black with beige fake fur lining. Size 14 Atmosphere brand new £15 07858 462998

TROUSER SUIT check, size 22, £40 ono 01695 732114

CROSSHATCH UNISEX Fleece lined zipped hoodie sweatshirt jacket, dark grey with dark red trim, medium £10 07858 462998

HARLEY-STYLE leather jacket, large, £40. Marlboro cowboy boots, size 9, one pair black leather, one pair brown suede, £25 a pair 07791 0888050

DOC MARTENS Black, girls size 4 boots, as new £30 0151 5271013

WORK BOOTS Steel Toe-capped Work Safety Boots. Black. Size 6. Good quality. Unused. £15 ono 01704 893484

HIVIS JACKET XL long thigh length, fully lined, medium weight, unused £25 ono Birkdale 01704568606 or 07850935406

HANGING WARDROBE excellent condition, black, 107cm x 57cm (42" x 22.5"), carry handle, shoulder strap, detachable hanging hook. £10. 01695 578368

LADIES JACKET dark grey zip up front small fur lined collar wool mixture size 16 excellent condition £9 ono 01515263851

PER UNA dress ideal for special occasion worn once calf length deep pink black beige white pattern size 16 may deliver £14ono 01515263851

PROM SUIT ONESIX5IVE teenage boy's 3 piece grey suit, slim fit. Chest 32R. Waist 26R, Worn once. Excellent condition. £30 07802436329

CLOTHING

LADIES BLACK Leather Coat. Marks and Spencer size 12. Great condition. £25 07802436329

LADIES DANNIMAC beige, new perfect, size 19ono £18. 01704 892851

LADIES SHOES gabor size 5, nude pat leather, 3" heel, brand new, ideal spring/wedding pic available £20ono. 07772 342722

LADIES SHOES clarks size 5, worn twice, black sued, faux snake leather trim, 3" heel, rounded toe, pic available. 07772 342722

LADIES COAT New three quarter length, which has never been worn black winter coat size 12, bargain Aintree.
£15 07434841029

LADIES JACKET Brand new Marks and Spencer's ladies short jacket, still has labels on. Black and white, size 14. Very smart looking and a bargain. Also more jackets if needed £25 07434841029

LADIES DRESS AND JACKET Fully beaded and black in colour, edge to edge Jacket has long sleeves which is size 14, the dress is a size 16, only worn once, ideal for special occasion, can email photograph, Aintree. £20 07434841029

LADIES DRESS New Per-Una dress which still has shop labels on, black and white in colour, size 10 to 12, ideal for a wedding, racers or special occasion. Cost new £65, more new clothes for sale also, Aintree £25 07434841029

GENTS SUIT Brand new gents suit which still has labels on bought from Next, 36 inch waste, regular leg, jacket 40 regular, charcoal grey in colour, genuine reason for sale. £59 07434841029

PER UNA HOUSECOAT winter weight light an fluffy full length in dusky pink size small
(but will fit medium person). No wear & tear, for quick sale £5 07821417560/07855222552

LADIES BALLY shoes size 5, brown lace, cherry red boots £8. Can send pic. 07772 342722

GEO OLIVER men's tan leather shoes-size7. Worn only once. Ex con. Classy pair of shoes. £8 07855222552/07821417560

BHS HOUSECOAT winter weight soft an fluffy full length warm red size small(but will fit medium person) great condition £5 for quicksale 07821417560/07855222552

MEINDL BURMA navy leather walking boots-size 7. Gore-Tex lined/Vibram soles, suit lady/man. Sturdy mountain/hill walking boots. Cost £130, absolute bargain at £20. 07855222552/07821417560

ROCKET-DOG knee high suede boots in grey size 5. with wedge heel. Bouugh TK MAXX £59.99 ex cond never worn, sell for £25 for quick sale 07821417560/07855255222

LADIES RED leather waist length retro bomber jacket -size 12. No buttons/studs, waist belt used for fastening it. Lovely jacket. VGC £15 07855222552/07821417560

BLACK SUEDE PULL-ON BOOTS 2" heel, knee high, made so can be folded over into calf high, worn few times only £10 07821417560/07855255222

SILK ARTISAN shoulder bag-beige/turquoise/terracotta coloured pattern. Bought in Turkey for £40. Unused, asking £20. 07821417560/07855222552

BLACK LEATHER WALKING BOOTS (not branded) size 5, good for low level walking vgc £7.50 07821417560/07855222552

SLIPPERS two pairs of microwave slippers new mens large womens medium £10.00 07790791733

COMPUTING

RJ45 CONNECTORS Pack of 40+ £10 ono 07858 462998

19" COLOUR flat screen computer monitor, new, includes all leads and manual £30 01704 201872

COMPUTING

IPHONE6 64GB Unmarked, mint condition full working order, unlocked , black, box, charger and lead, £315 01704831977

DELL 755 desktop pc, core2duo 2.2, 160gb, 2gb ram, genuine Windows 10, 17 monitor, keyboard, mouse, full working order £120 01704831977

VISIONEER SCANNER (model no: FU661G)rarely used for quick sale £5 07855222552

DIY

MIRROR TILES 12x12, 2 packs of 4 £5 each or split. 01695 574138

RADIATOR single panel 2000 x 500 £25 0151474 9433

WORKBENCH small steel, with vice, 36" long x 18", buyer collects £40. 01704 548436

POWER CRAFT electric paint stripper new £15 07941828515

ALUMINIUM LADDER 6 foot aluminium ladder £15 ono 01704 532648

QUARRY TILES 200 6x6 brown, genuine Ruabon, unused condition £120 01695 633171

DELONGHI RADIATOR Modern designer square column chrome radiator, new unused 830mm x 930mm 313W £100 ono 07546808606

BOSCH GSR 14.4v combi drill, 3 batteries, case, bargain £25. 8'x4' 50mm celotex, 4x4 insulation board, both for £15, bargain. 07708 415747

WORKSFORCE electric 240 volt chainsaw, 16" bar, can be seen working, little used £40 Southport 214498

MARLEY ROOFTILES Dark red 65 tiles £25 Southport 01704224039

ALUMINIUM LADDERS Heavy Duty 15 'x 2 extending ladders £80 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

KITCHEN SINK/BOWL stainless steel one and a half size £10. 01695 228379

PRESSURE COOKER prestige vgc £10. 07941 158614

WALLPAPER STEAMER still in box used once £15. 07941 158614

DIAMOND cutting blade, high performance, red ten 300x20mm for brick, concrete roof tiles, granite, light steel, never used £15. 07724 892445

GARDENING

GREENHOUSE Aluminium greenhouse. 8ft x 6ft. Frame ok but two cracked glass panes £5. Buyer to dismantle. 01704575428

COMPOST BIN Blackwall 250L capacity. £10.00 07810338675

BIRD FEEDER New top quality tall hanging fatball cage holds six fatballs. Metal and clear plastic construction with weatherproof top.£5.00 01704 546978

GARDEN-LIGHT TRANSFORMER Suitable for outdoor use for lights or pond pump. Low voltage. Input 220/240V 50Hz, output 12V 6A 72VA. £5. 01695 578368

4 BIRD nesting boxes-brand new/well made in solid wood. Painted chestnut colour. W6"D6"H8.5" £5 each 07855222552/07821417560

TRADITIONAL black plastic dustbin with clip on lid. Unused. £5 07855222552/07821417560

GARDEN TOOLS Ten assorted garden tools including shovel rake bulb planter scythe etc All used but serviceable £15 the lot 01704 22215

HOBBIES

GOLF CLUBS full set, £25, also BICYCLE (mountain bike) £35, Tel:0151 932 0240

KODAK BROWNIE box camera six-20 model D soft leather case, perfect cond £20 0151 526 0191

AVIATION VIDEOS 26, airshows, news reports, documentaries, back to 1980's £15. 01704 870692

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WADE POTTERY collector selling up, 350 whimsies, 45 various World of Whimsy books, whimsies in presentation cases £800. 01704 870692

HILLBILLY Electric golf trolley in good working order. Fully serviced. No battery or charger. Only £45 07808484721

ROLAND KEYBOARD New unboxed BK5. Super sound. Plenty of tones and rhythms. Great backing instrument for band, or for use at home. 01704 533489

LEFT HAND electric guitar strat type, brand new, nice guitar with new padded gig bag. £95 07504888423

WANTED Liverpool, Everton etc match worn shirts wanted dont need to be signed cash paid 01515319425 / 07773242918

BINATONE DIGIMATIC Radio Alarm brown cover flip clock AM/FM £17 07858 462998

FIRE EXTINGUISHER vintage pyrene brass type, 1965, empty, stamped on handle, FDB65, no blemishes or dents, excellent condition, decorative item £18 01704874084

SEYMOUR DUNCAN twang banger APST-1 makes your strat sound like a telecaster, brand new in box £70 07504888423

SNOOKER TABLE 72"x38" inc. cues, chalks,snooker & pool balls. Table tennis top inc, net, bats, balls. Sale due to downsizing £100 ono 01704 875299

GAMES FOR PS2 13 all in excellent condition bargain £10 01704875299

HARRY POTTER DVD collection 8 films, film 6 limited edition with bonus features £30 ono the lot all in excellent condition 01704 875299

CERAMIC HORSES Two collectable soldiers on horseback, Wolseley and Roberts, beautiful condition must see to appreciate. £40 for both O.N.O 01704875299

CAMERA TRIPOD Velbon CX 540 with spare shoe. Suitable for DSLR. Good condition. £15.00 07810338675

SONY CAMERA DSC-T100, 8MP, complete kit including batteries, 2x memory-cards, charger. Stylish silver with cool on-off switch. Great first camera. £10. 01695 578368

SONY VIDEO-CAMERA DCR-PC115E, Zeiss lens, handy size, 120x digital zoom, complete kit with remote control. Uses DV tapes or memory stick. £15. 01695 578368

10X50 BINOCULARS in mint condition, Chinon 7-degree extrawide field-of-view, complete with case and all 4 lens caps. £30. 01695 578368

ROLAND KEYBOARD BK5, great sounds and rhythms, new, unboxed RRP £699 sell for £475ono, stand inc, can deliver. 01704 533489

GUITAR STRAP New high quality black leather studded strap with gold colour genuine Schaller strap locks, never drop your guitar again! £40 01704831977

HARDBACK BOOKS large amount, thrillers, periods, others all ex cond with dust covers £1 each p/backs 50p. 01695 228379

3-MAN TENT with carrier instructions, inc excellent cond £30ono. 01704 565856

HOBBIES

N-GAUGE ENGINE and carriages (Fleishman black 5 loco, 2 coaches, 2 container flats (graham parish) £150ono. 01704 535361

CANON CAMERAS canon snappy lx 35mm and canon sureshot ex 35mm compact film camera. £10.00 each 07790791733

CANON CAMERA ixus elph fully automatic compact camera 24-48mm ideal for camera collector. £25.00 07790791733

OLUMPUS CAMERA superzoom 35mm film camera 38-70mm lens with built in flash timer. £15.00 07790791733

CARDMAKING MAGS Past issues of 'Cardmaking & Papercraft', 'Papercraft Essentials' and others. 50p each, or £1 with the gift included. 07742176433

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

FLATSCREEN WALLMOUNT with tilt, max 24", new condition, in box £25. 07941 158614

TV Small flat screen TV £20 suit bedroom. 07894043048

SAMSUNG S5 Excellent condition 16gb boxed with charger and headphones. No marks on screen. Black. Like new. Unlocked any network £110 07857924820

WANTED TURNTABLE Pioneer Record Player, for project Cash waiting. Any condition 07747074907

JPW SPEAKERS Black woodgrain effect, 25cm x 18cm x 18cm. No marks or scratches. Excellent sound. £35.00 01704 893484

DAB DIGITAL RADIO unwanted gift with manual £15 ono 07541866879

RADIO AND CDPLAYER philips radio and cd player in vgc hardly used battery and mains £15 07541866879

HIFI AMP Digital class T 15wpc size of a DVD case, Boxed. £35 07504888423

ROBERTS RADIO Roberts R309 radio. Excellent condition. £25 ono. 01704572345

TOSHIBA FLATSCREEN 32" tv with Freeview and remote, excellent condition £55. Tv stand, smoked glass, 2 shelves, never used, excellent condition £15 01704 877450

SAMSUNG TV 30 inch, £30 01704 577558

SURROUND SOUND 5 speakers & subwoofer with DVD player, start lead & aux input. Excellent working order sale due to downsizing £40 ono 01704 875299

TV 22" by Acustic solutions excellent working order ideal for bedroom or small room. Sale due to downsizing £30 017104 875299

VINYL RECORDS 54 Lps. £3. 0151 9221826

VHS RECORDER Matsui VHS Recorder, complete with remote control. Model 9408. Very little used. Exc. condition. £25 01704 893484

CD PLAYER Aiwa CD Player complete with remote control. XC300. Black. Exc. condition. £40.00 01704 893484

CASSETTE DECK Technics Stereo Cassette Deck. RS-BX501. Gun-metal grey. Exc. condition. £25.00 01704 893484

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

PLASMA TV Panasonic 37 inch plasma TV complete with Panasonic surround sound system, Panasonic DVD player, tuner & subwoofer. Also Free view box, £150 07961019553

JPW SPEAKERS Pair. Black Woodgrain effect Speakers. 25cm x 18cm x 18cm. No marks or scratches. Exc sound and condition. £35 Tel 01704893484

YAMAHA ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD PSR-74 with power source. Auto accompaniment styles and features. Good condition and good working order.£39 01704 560150

LCD TV Samsung black inch wide screen TV on own stand. Requires connecting to sky or freeview box. No remote control. £32 01704 560150

PANASONIC TELEVISION 32" Flatscreen with DVB and Freesat tuners. Model TX-32LZD81, complete with instruction manual and remote control. £50. 01704 620950

VINTAGE RECORD case full of records. LPs singles 78rpm 45rpm and 33rpm. Records good condition. Well cared for. £15 01704 821920

DVD BOX-SET Buffy the vampire slayer seasons 1-7, as new £20. 01704 260759

DVD BOXSET Blackadder the complete collection £5. 01704 260759

MILITARY AIRCRAFT DVDS milestones of flight, secret aircraft of the superpowers both 8xdvd box set, the history of flight dvd and book £25.00 07790791733

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ROOM 2RENT Fully furnished double room in quiet, residential area of ormskirk. £350pcm inc all bills. 07450814625

HOUSE AND HOME

BLACK METAL DOUBLE BED no mattress.£80. Pine double wardrobe with Three bottom drawers, Pine Bedroom chest of Seven drawers, Pine Three drawer bedside cabinet. £150 all Three.07940 180942

HOOVER £20. TV Combi Hitachi £25. 07593 457325

GOLDEN PINE SINGLE WARDROBE with 2 drawers Was £300 Accept £50. Kingsize Headboard Great Tweed £25. Breakfast Bar + 2 Stools £50. Tel 07739 040838

OAK DINING TABLE with Six Brown Leather matching chairs, 6ft x 3ft, Square pattern on table and chairs.VGC. £200.0151 5319737

WRITING BUREAU small antique style, pine £55. 01704 563558

FAN OVEN enfield electric, with top oven, ceramic hob, fully maintained £125. 01695 735371

SONY TV 26" digital flat screen, not slim, good working order, with glass stand £45. Can deliver locally. 07968 267316

LEONARDO ORNAMENT Porcelain ornament Lady with doll 9 inch tall v.g.c £20 01695 420950

TENGRA ORNAMENT Georgina lady with duck 12inches tall vgc £25 01695 420950

VINYL RECORDS 60,s vinyl Buddy Holly Searchers Shirley Bassey Russ Conway 33 in total £15.00 Tel 01695 420950

NAO ORNAMENT Lady with hat 9 inches tall vgc £15 01695 420950

DIMPLEX COLLUM portable electric radiator (rrp £55) as new £35 07941828515

SOFA BED Ikea Navy and White striped sofa bed in excellent condition Length 2m, width 0.92m. Tarleton, £95ono 07796135639

DINING TABLE Stunning Mahogany with 8 cream checked/striped mix and match covered chairs. Length 1.73m extends to 2.65m. Originally from Molloys. £155 07796135639

LARGE MIRROR Beautiful Antique Bronze mirror in excellent condition.1.47m x 1.17m. Looks stunning on wall or freestanding, landscape or portrait. £115 ono 07796135639

WEDGWOOD meadow sweet, 6 dinner, 6 side, 6 starter plates, gravy boat, 2 veg cass bowls, 3 soup bowls 5 saucers 01515201255

ELECTRIC FIRE Dimplex electric insert fire with optiflame effect silver/black £40 01704822459

CONSOLE TABLE Hygena matrix, black glass silver legs size h76 w90 d30cm £10 01704822459

DINING CHAIRS Pair of red faux leather roll top scroll high back chairs £50 01704822459

PORTABLE FOLDING chair £10 01704 510457

HOUSE AND HOME

VAX BAGLESS upright vacuum cleaner, hardly used, excellent condition with instruction manual £25 0151 9280512

27 PIECE dinner service, 4 full settings, never used £15 0151 9247929

GLASS TOP dining table 35 x 50" and 4 chairs, Italian style, £100 ono 01704 873199

TWO TIER dining table, clear and black glass with chrome legs, 6 matching chairs, black £80 01704 543231

STOVES GAS hob, new price £299, sell £89, only 2 years old. Red velvet double headboard £25 07594 604523

ROYAL RUG collection by plantation, hand loomed Indian rug, 100% wool, 5x3 brand new cost £220, accept £89, no offers, excellent bargain 07594 604523

THREE LARGE conservatory chairs, wicker with green cushions, good condition £120 ono 01704 211457

RECLINER SOFA ,brown fabric, 2 seater, almost new, buyer collects £175 ono 07885 529270

SAMSUNG WASHING machine, eco-bubble 8kg £100. Faux leather chairs (cream) 4, £25 01704 212860

FRIDGE/FREEZER White 2 door, Currys, as new, £60 ono 07517319725

HAMMER DRILL Siverline Hammer drill snap in chuck no slipping powerful drill 240V it will do Hammer only £65 ono Southport 07854280607

BOSCH DISHWASHER Full size, VGC, £75.00 ono. 07835350813

SAMSUNG FREDGE FREEZER White Side by side fridge freezer with water & ice dispenser (NEW this is £1199) £360 ono 07854280607

SINGLE BED with under single bed £25. Pine double children wardrobe, good condition £25. Lovely pine bookcase £15 01704 821597

TV CABINET by McIntosh, mahogany, 2 doors, antique gold handles, pull out shelf for sky box etc H38" W33" D19" £30 07966 130623

DINING TABLE 100cms x 100cms. Aegean Light Travertine (looks like marble). Excellent condition. £50 Tel 01704506459

FOR SALE 3 piece suite, 4 seater and chair, gold and grey floral and 3 seater striped. Excellent condition £350 ono 07881225160

GLASS TABLE Beautiful with 4 chairs. 2 seater settee and easy chair, green leather, very good condition, £150 the lot! 01704 538101

HOUSE AND HOME

DOUBLE WARDROBE H72" W44" D20". 6 drawer chest H31" W44" D15", almost new, will sell separate, £220. Can email pics 07791 450921

TWO DOUBLE wardrobes H72" W30" D20". 3 drawer desk H27" W38" D16", £120, will separate. Buyer collects, can email pics 07791 450921

1200W HALOGEN heater, 3 heat settings and oscillation safety tilt switch and additional safety thermal fuse £15 07967 085884

BEKO 5KG washing machine £50. Indesit freezer, 3 drawer £25. Haier larder fridge, £20. All good condition 07434 611486

STEP LADDER 4 tread, safety rail, as new £25. Fridge/freezer, GWO, £20 ono. Halogen light fitting, good condition, 3 lights £15 ono 01704 889121

PANASONIC CLEANER with tools and bags £20. Bex Bissell cleaner, lift off middle, spare container and tools belt, £20. Both good condition 01695 735034

6 SILVER-PLATED place mats, round 7.5 inch diameter, £15 01704 831890

WHITE UPVC patio doors, 204cm height, excellent condition £150. Buyer must collect - lock and keys, sliding door, fixed glass panel 245cm length 07716 732863

FOCAL POINT plasma flu-less gas fire, wall mount, unused, boxed £150. Mira Vie electric shower, boxed, new, 10.8kw £80 01704 832799

FACIAL SUNLAMP phillips hardly used healty tan all year round cost £85 bargain £20 01515319425/07773242918

3 SEAT SOFA G-Plan. reclining armchair and stool, burgundy colour. Chenille fabric. Fire resistant. Excellent condition. (ex-Stokers) £220 ono 01704873672

LEATHER SETTEES 3&2 seater Stokers Black leather. Good condition selling due to house move. 3 Seater 2.35m x 1m, 2 Seater 1.8m x 1m. Pick up only £400 ono 07792805303

UPLIGHTER Brushed steel uplighter with glass shade. £25 07961019553

KESHAN RUG Royal Keshan Rug. 200cm x 140cm. Lovely design. Used as feature under coffee table so hardly walked on. £100.00 01704 893484

LIMITED EDITION Ormskirk Church Hand Coloured Print. [161 of 350] Taken from original lithograph by Paul Breen. Excellent condition. £25.00 ono 01704 893484

HOUSE AND HOME

CEILING LIGHTS Two Top Quality Peach Coloured Glass Ceiling Lights and Brass Fittings with three matching wall-light shades. Picture available. £25.00 01704 893484

DYSON DC14 Upright vacuum cleaner with tools. Excellent pick-up and very good condition. £55 01704 560150

HALL/OCCASIONAL TABLE Solid wood (not chip board) drop leaf swivel top table. Mahogany H 25 inches. 30 x 20 inches drops to 30 x 10.5 inches £25 01704 560150

IKEA STAVE MIRROR Light oak frame, 70 cm x 70 cm Good condition. £10 01704 560150

SIDE TABLE Pine table with bottom shelf, great condition, 20x20x20in £10 01512849506

LARGE MIRROR Brand new, still in box, oak wooden frame, 47 inches long, 25 inches wide £120 to buy retail, £50 ono 01512849506

WASHING MACHINE Grey Hotpoint 1600 spin £50 01695 322096

BEVELLED MIRROR Frameless, rectangular, 36" x 25", with screw holes. 60s/70s era. Fair/good condition. £15. 01704 620950

SHOWER BASE Unopened package. White Bathstore righthand offset quadrant (fits into lefthand corner). 1100 x 800 mm. Ainsdale area £20 01704 620950

SINGLE BED Pink Metal 4 poster bed with pink hearts. use with or without posts. no drapes. no mattress. Good Condition £30 07720621338

PORTA-POTTY for camping or caravan,Thetford 345 £25 01704224039

SINGLE BED 3ft (Gere) White, Wood Frame Slatted Bed, very good condition £90. 07918685499

SOFA BED Ikea white sofa bed, free with collection 01695573969

SINGLE BED IKEA with slatted base and Sultan spring mattress. Removable cover. Very clean. Silver frame. £40 01704 821920

CHEST DRAWERS 3 drawers. Painted white 72cm high 63cm wide. Good condition. £15. 01704 821920

BUREAU WRITING DESK Front folds down for writing. Perfect for a laptop. Lower drawer and cupboard with shelf. Mahogany. Good condition. £25 01704 821920

HOUSE AND HOME

GAS HOB Neff 4 burner in white,-good condition,with connecting hose and instructions. £10 01704 530137

COFFEE FILTER MACHINE Bravilor Mondo in stainless steel, large model with hotplate on top, with 2 stainless steel jugs, suite,-cafe or guest house,etc £45 01704 530137

IKEA BOOKCASE 3 shelves. 104cm high 90cm wide. Brown mahogany colour. £15 01704 821920

ELECTRIC FIRE Regency style with coloured glass coals,2 radiant bars,in brass and chrome,very ornate,cost approx. £400,sell for £95 01704 530137

ENCYCLOPEDIAS FUNK and Wagnall. Brown and Gold. Full set with dictionary. Would make a lovely display. Near mint condition. £20 01704 821920

FIDGE FREEZER Beko. A-class frost free. Silver. Cabinet split 50/50. Unmarked. Great working order. Selling due to new kitchen. £80. 01704 821920

100-WATT LIGHT-BULBS Box of 25 Osram 100W traditional tungsten bulbs with clear glass and standard bayonet B22 fitting. £20. 01695 578368

BATHROOM CABINET Stainless steel with full mirrored door, 1 shelf. 50cm tall by 30cm wide by 15cm deep (19 3/4" x 12" x 6"). £30. 01695 578368

TOWEL RAIL Silver stainless metal, 48cm wide by 26cm projection (19" x 10 1/4"). 5 rails total. Not heated. £5. 01695 578368

STAINLESS STEEL double built in oven small oven grill perfect working order large oven in need of attention very clean condition £35ono 01515263851

OCCASIONAL CIRCULAR table with draped table cloth over to floor ideal side table for any room may deliver £7 ono 01515263851

DINING TABLE Dark rosewood 1.5mts long x 0.95mts wide extends to 1.9mts. £120.00 ono 01704 538825

OMAS OM10E dehumidifier, floor standing, suit large area, little used £40 ono 01704214498

GAS HOB Zanuzzi, black 4 burner, unused in packaging £75 01704214498

DC07 bagless upright dyson, excellent suction, can deliver £35 01704214498

KENWOOD MIXER slow speed/shredder/slicer/liquidiser £75ono. Please call after 6.30pm. 07886 655610

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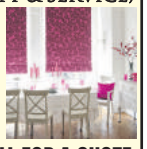

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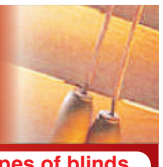

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HOUSE AND HOME

SHOWER/BATH SCREEN curved, new still in box, 1500H x 810W mm, 6mm safety glass, frame silver, glass clear £95. 01772 816346

ANTIQUE CRYSTAL 3 tiered lights (pair) cost £79 will accept £25 each, still boxed, never used. 01704 576939

OUTDOOR LANTERNS black cast aluminium x 2 £20. White stripe shoes, small heel size 4 £5. 07732 083169

WOOL RUG 100% , camel shade, new, 5x3 £220rrp selling for £89. 07594 604523

STOVES GASHOB cost £299 new selling for £89 2 yrs old 68x50cms. 07594 604523

SINGLE SOFA BED immaculate cond, ideal for a guest room £80 0151 286 6896

WHITE TUMBLE DRYER 19" x 23" £50ono. 01704 872653

TV & HI-FI unit,light colour, substantial under shelf, long drawer, approx 3ft wide, photo available £35. 07772 342722

TV UNIT next, light colour, under shelf, one drawer approx 4ft wide, pic available £30. 07772 342722

TV CABINET in polished mahogany wood (H 44"xW30.5"xD20") has 3 lower shelves. Has 2 full length doors which concertina back ex cond £75 07821417560/07855222552

SMALL OIL painting (11"x13") of West Yorkshire's Howarth main street-in the snow-ornate gold frame. Ex con £5 07855222552/07821417560

HOUSE AND HOME

WOODEN BLANKET CHEST Wooden chest ideal for storing items of any kind, 35"x19"x24" high. Nice condition in a medium oak with a panel design to front. Very strong and sturdy, not antique. £65 07434841029

3D DECOUPAGE picture of John Everett Millais's "Bubbles" in mahogany wooden frame/gold gilt edging/glazed 14"x12". Ex con. £5 07855222552/07821417560

ANTIQUE BRASS 3 candle bulb ceiling light. Plain. Bought at Homebase. Takes 3x60watt bulbs. VGC. £8 07855222552/07821417560

ANTIQUE BRASS 16mm curtain pole-40" length with fittings and curtain rings. Purchased at Dunelm. VGC £5 07855222552/07821417560

DINING TABLE drop leaf, small, 3 wheel back dining chairs, good cond. offers. 01695 576555

RECLINING ARMCHAIR beige, ex cond. no marks, not electric £50ono. 01704 896670

DROPLEAF TABLE pine and 2 chairs £35. Kenwood bread maker £15. Lindam Safety Gate £10. 01704 380619

DINING TABLE pine oval farmhouse, 5' x 3' plus 2 ladder back chairs £10. 07917 611202

BUILT-IN-OVEN timer, grill clock, with manual, full working order, immaculate £50 0151 531 9906

MISC

RECORDS WANTED indie, rock & roll, 60's pop and beat, rock, folk, punk etc. Bought for cash. Cigarette & bubble gum cards also bought. 01704 566210 after 6pm

1966 SHIRT Professionally framed and signed by players inc Nobby Stiles. Inc paperwork to show authenticity. £150 07894043048

ROYAL WINTON Old vintage breakfast set. 6 piece set inc tray, T pot, cup, egg cup, toast rack and jug. Vgc £50 07894043048

WEDGWOOD Biscuit barrel and sugar Shaker. Both vintage. £25 07894043048

LIFEMAX GENTS silver talking watch brand new £15 07941828515

VINYL LPS Assorted titles. Approximately 140. sold as job lot only. £85 01704 212979

FIRE WOOD large amount of firewood £35 a stack or best offer for the lot 01704 532648

CAMPING STOOLS two metal tripod camping/hiking stools £10 01704 532648

ELIZABETH ARDEN Red Door gift set including body cream, perfume eau de toilette spray £25. Anais Anais eau de toilette spray 100ml£15 07745 057191

DARTBOARD Winmau as used in pubs excellent condition £10 01515319425/07773242918

SPORTS GLASSES new 3 changeable lens case etc bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

MISC

ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP Rainford & Surrounding District, framed & glazed Circa 1860.40" X 28" by Lt.Col. Hall Ordnance Map Office Southampton. £60 excellent condition. 01695578218 or 07752894501

POTTERY KILNER Jar marked 'Siakin Dolomite' sunflower pattern cream pot, lovely piece £7 07858 462998

GREEN GLASS Viresa bottle, vintage retro large indoor terrarium, wide mouth complete with silk flowers £25 07858 462998

SEKONIC LUMIDISC For light meter for L-308/308B in bag for camera 07858 462998

BOOK COLLECTION 42 books, hardback, paperback, fiction, non-fiction, all sizes and genres £10 07858 462998

BRAND NEW drone, built in camera, six axis gyro, 4 moths, 3 speed levels, age 14 plus £15 07967 085884

VINTAGE STONE Hot Water Bottle, nice condition £8 07858 462998

WRITING BOX Black Wood inches 12x8x6, bottom tray, inset on lid for picture £8 07858 462998

DANIELLE STEELE books lots to choose from paper back & Hard back all in excellent condition 50p-£1 each 01704 875299

SOPHIE KINSELLA books lots to choose from all in excellent condition 50p-£1 each phone for details 01704 875299

LIVERPOOL finals charity shields 30 in total bargain 70s to date £30 01515319425/07773242918

DRINKS SET Unwanted gift, cost £40 Argos. Ice pail with tongs, cocktail shaker, juicer. Chrome effect stainless steel. £20. 0151 9221826

UMBRELLAS Various styles 10 umbrellas. £8. 0151 9221826

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BLACK BANDEAU Real hair black bandeau, shoulder length hair piece. £25. 0151 9221826

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NEW CHIP and run left handed golf club bargain £10 01515319425 or 07773242918

CHICKEN COOP Large walk in 7ft x 3ft coop with run and nesting/roosting area good condition £230 new accept £50 01704873219

MISC

LANCOME LA Vie est Belle 30ml with 50ml body lotion and mascara. Boxed unwanted gift £38 07966101288

4 WHEEL mobility walker with seat and backrest, lockable handbrakes for safety, can deliver £40 Southport 214498

GOLD CHAIN beautiful multi loop links solid 22" 9ct gold chain, approx. 12 grams, case, would make lovely present £200 01704831977

BEREAVEMENT ITEMS Small items of furniture, light shades, mirrors, china, foot stools , pictures, vases, gifts sets, and much more from £5 07434841029

SIM CARD ee £20.00 top up sim card. £15.00 07790791733

GIFT SET watch, wallet, and belt gift set new £10.00 07790791733

PHOTO FRAMES 34 Frames Dark Wood effect with gold trim Takes 7" x 5" photo behind glass. Used £20 the lot 01704 222715

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RISER RECLINER good condition £90ono. Please call after 6.30pm. 07886 655610

CIRCULATION MASSAGER XG858 with remote control, unwanted gift, still boxed £50. Please call after 6.30pm. 07886 655610

WALKING FRAME on wheels, new, never used H83 x W18 x D21 cams £30. Crown green bowls 2lb11oz almost new, taylor express£65. 07789 143415

4-WHEEL ROLLATOR seat, back support, brakes, fold for transport £35ono. 0151 525 8252

MOTHER AND BABY

COT+BED Mamas and papas, plus changing chest with 4 drawers, ex cont, can deliver £200. 07825 981686

BIRTH POOL la bassine birth pool includes Liner, Cover, Air-Pump, WaterPump, Hose, Connector, Floor Sheet etc. New, not used. £80 (cost £140) 01695 421902

MAMA TENS maternity unit. Natural pain relief for labour. Excellent condition. In original box with instruction booklet, storage bag & electrodes. £25 01695 421902

AVENT STERILISER Philips Avent electric steriliser. Good condition. £15. 01695 421902

PHILIPS AVENT Philips Avent electric bottle warmer. Good condition. £10. 01695 421902

FISHER PRICE RAINFOREST GYM Fisher Price Rainforest Melodies and Lights Deluxe Gym /Play mat. Excellent condition. £25 (cost £50) 01695 421902

MOSES BASKET good clean condition £6 07539 449430

SILVER CROSS pram, navy blue and white with extras, excellent condition £60 07539 449430

TWO LINDHAM stair gates, £15 for both 0151 5271013

WOOLLEN JUMPERS Mixed baby sizes, never worn 07939 088659

MOTHER AND BABY

MOTHERCARE COTBED With mattress 3 positions. Clean and Very good condition from smoke and pet free home. £25 01704 560627

FIRE GUARD extending, excellent condition £10 01704 545897

TODDLER BED wooden framed first bed with mattress, excellent condition £20 01704 545897

BED GUARD metal, slides under mattress,excellent condition £10 01704 545897

TODDLER BED MOTHERCARE, low pine bed, 140 x 70cm, good used condition, can deliver locally, includes mattress if required £45 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

FIRSTBED MOTHERCARE low oine bed 190 x 85cm good used condition, takes standard 6'3'' x 2'6'' mattress, included if required £55 ono Birkdale 01704568606 or 07850935406

PINE COT 140 x 70cm, good used condition, can deliver locally, includes mattress if required £30 ono Birkdale 01704568606 or 07850935406

LITTLE TIKES Picnic table with attached benches, faded but sound, can deliver locally £10 ono Birkdale 01704568606 or 07850935406

EXTENDED BABY GATE, Lindham walk through safety gate with two maximum extensions to fit space 52''-56'', 132cm-142cm £15 ono Birkdale 01704568606 or 07850935406

BABY HIGHCHAIR lightweight metal, easy folds £12. baby safety gate, walk through £5. both vgc. 07813 094247

COT BED solid wood, mother care age 0-4 years, cost originally £200 sell for £69. Red velvet double headboard £24 07594 604523

MOTORING

EEZI BLEED auto hydraulic brake/clutch kit boxed £5 07941828515

1945 PETROL CAN red metal petrol can needs resorting £5 07941828515

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HALFORDS ROOF BARS and all fittings for Ford Focus, cost over £130 - sell for £35 01704 201872

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Announcements

PRAYERS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.

M.J

Saint Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us, St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless pray for us.

Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayers may be answered. Say it for 9 days and it has never been known to fail.

Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude

Instructions:
Light your candle and declare out loud what miracle you need right now. Repeat this prayer 9 times for 9 days. Do this at the same time each day, never skip a day. If you do, you need to start over again. On the 9th day give thanks, and say "So be it." Give it up to Saint Jude and let go of any worry. You will see results in 72 hours. Never use this prayer to manipulate or control anyone. Use it only with the best intentions.

This is the most important part of the entire process YOU MUST pass this miracle prayer onto others. Some people publish it in the paper, others e-mail it to their friends, and others post it in a public building.

J

BIRTHDAYS

MAUREEN CRILLY
Happy 70th Birthday
15th February 2017

From all your loving family xx

MAUREEN CRILLY
70 Today!
15th February 2017

Happy Birthday Mum, Love Sue and the Girls xxx

MAUREEN CRILLY
Happy 70th Birthday
15th February 2017

To my wonderful Nan, still as glam now! Have a fab day, love Shelley, Paul and Ed xxx

Announcements

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Call the Classified Sales Team on **01704 392392**
or check-out our website **www.champnews.com**

IN MEMORIAM

FITZSIMONS MIRIAM

15th February 2016

Miriam not only my Sister but also my best friend.
I considered you one of God's very special gifts to me.
Never forgotton,
Loved forever.
God Bless.
Your loving Sister Joyce, your Niece Lynn and family.
xxxxxx

JAMIESON STUART EDWARD

13th February 2016

Aged 46

Always on our minds, in our thoughts and forever in our heart.
With all our love Mum and Dad xx

Johnson Edward (Eddie)

15th February 2011

We miss his smile,
his kindly ways,
With him we spent
such happy days,
We miss him when
we need a friend,
on him we always could depend

Granddaughter Alison and Great Granddaughter Aimeé x x

Johnson Edward (Eddie)

15th February 2011

We miss you Grandad
in so many ways,
We miss the things
you used to say,
and when old times we do recall,
It's then we miss you most of all.

Grandson Phil, Kelly and great grandson Daniel
xxx

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IN MEMORIAM

Johnson Edward (Eddie)

15th February 2011

To hear your voice and
see you smile,
to sit with you and chat a while,
That is what we wish today,
Dad in our hearts
you will always stay.

Miss and love you always
Gary, Angela, Abbie & Chloe
xxxx

Johnson Edward (Eddie)

15th February 2011

Some gifts in life are big
and some are small,
But to have had you in
our lives Dad,
was the greatest
gift of all.

Love Son Alan and Carol
x x

Johnson Edward (Eddie)

15th February 2011

I miss talking to you,
I miss the laughter,
I miss our trips out,
I miss my Dad.

But Dad,
As long as I have memories,
As long as I have tears,
You'll never be forgotten,
Not in a million years

Loving daughter
San and Alec
x x

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HORN JOAN

The Horn family would like to thank - Dr Ray and all his staff for their kindness and understanding - Every member of staff at Silver Birch Nursing Home in Aughton for their dedicated love, care, and support to Joan and the family over the last 20 months - MLS Funeral Directors especially Lisa and Sally for their gentleness, extreme kindness, and thorough professionalism - Neil Rees and the wonderful team at Cottage Lane Mission Ormskirk for their special services of Committal, Celebration, and refreshments, and Thank you to everybody who came and supported us on the day.

DEATHS

McMAHON JOHN GEORGE

2nd February 2017
Peacefully in hospital
Aged 47 years
of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Son of Helena and the late Tom. Loving Brother of Tom, Lena and David, dear Brother in law of Chris and Sue and much loved Uncle to all his Nieces and Nephews. Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Friday 17th February 2017 at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for The MS Society or The Epilepsy Society. All enquiries to H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122 / 720012

NELSON AGNES (ADA)

On 6th February 2017
Peacefully in hospital
Aged 82 years

Loving Wife of the late James, devoted Mum of Pam, Bow (Decd) Kenny, Paula and Sarah, cherished Nan and Great Nan of all her Grandchildren. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service will take place at St Pauls Church on Thursday 16th February at 10.00am followed by Interment at Liverpool Road Cemetery. All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane. Tel: 01695 559868.

EDWARDS BARBARA

6th February 2017
Aged 86 years

Peacefully with her family by her side. Loving Wife of the late Gordon, devoted and caring Mother to Mark, Simon and Fiona, Grandma to Mark, Gareth, Thomas, Daniel, William and Rosie, Sister to Pat. Funeral Service will take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 17th February at 10.40am. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Alzheimer's Society. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

BARTLETT TONY

6th February 2017
Suddenly in hospital
Aged 84 years

Dearly beloved Husband of the late Susan. Dear Brother of David and the late Claude and Joe. A dear friend of Tony and Ellen. Tony will be sadly missed by all who knew him. The Funeral Service will take place at St John the Evangelist Church, Burscough on Friday 17th February 2017 at 10.00am followed by interment in the Churchyard. Flowers welcome. Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5UU. Tel 01704 897770.

MULVANY EDITH MAY

7th February 2017
Peacefully
Aged 91 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Michael, loving Mum of Gayle, dear Mother-in-law of Graham and devoted Nan of Rachael and Hannah. Funeral service and Interment at St Anne's RC Church, Ormskirk, Today, Wednesday 15th February 2017 at 10.00am. All enquiries to H Hardman & Co, Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

ROBINS FLORENCE MARY

7th February 2017
Aged 78 years

Goodnight and God-bless Nan.We're going to miss your happiness & your ever-smiling face.All our love from your Grandaughter Jennifer and Grandson Andrew,along with all your Great Grandchildren
XX

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
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DEATHS

ROBINS FLORENCE MARY

7th February 2017
Aged 78 years

If wishes were dreams,and dreams came true,i'd always wish for a Mum like you.I'd dream of a time long gone by,with stories you told that made me believe i could fly.

Nightmares soothed in the dead of night,no childhood fears as you held me tight.Keeping me safe in your warm embrace,whilst wiping the tears gently from my face.

As the years flew by,your love kept me strong.In your eyes i could do no wrong.This boy became a man as time moved on.My childhood fears had all but gone.But i knew you were there should the need arise,to wipe those tears away from my eyes.But now the angels have taken you away,its left me so empty and with nothing to say.
Except that i love you Mum and i always will.
There's a space left in my heart that only you can fill.

Goodnight Mum from your broken-hearted son Mike & Daughter-in-law Netty.

Love you forever
XX

FRANCE CHRISTOPHER

16th January 2017
Passed away at home
Aged 73 years of
Ormskirk

Funeral Service at Southport Crematorium on Wednesday 15th February at 10.40am. Further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 424888.

DEATHS

ROBINS FLORENCE MARY (Flo)

7th February 2017
Suddenly aged 78 years

Reunited with your Mike (Died 31/05/2016).

There is no greater love than that of a Mother's. My Mum, my best friend I never got to say goodbye and I'm going to miss you so much. No more drinks on a Friday just treasured memories of great times. Take care of my Dad, till we meet again.

Goodnight and God Bless.
Your broken hearted Daughter Jacqueline and Son-In-Law Mick.

ROBINS FLORENCE MARY (Flo)

7th February 2017
Suddenly aged 78 years

Reunited with our Granddad. Resting where no shadows fall, where perfect peace awaits us all. A Nan in a million, you were loved by us all. Sleep tight Nan, love Michael, Daniel, Adam, Helen, Paige and Great-Granddaughter Charlotte.
Funeral Service at St.Helens Crematorium on Monday 20th February at 2:00pm. Enquiries to Devonport Funeral Services 01695 731199

DON HOWARD

8th February 2017
Aged 84
Peacefully At Home

Reunited with his beloved wife Irene. Much loved Dad of Lyn and Janis, Grandad of Deborah, James and Craig, Great Grandad of Norah and Cassie. Donations if desired are being gratefully received for British Lung Foundation. For further information and funeral arrangements contact H. Hardman & Co, Witham Road, Skelmersdale 01695 722122

DEATHS

BATTY LORRAINE JOYCE (RAE) NEE WILLIAMS

- 5th February 2017 -
Aged 80 Years

Dear Lord, Please take this message to our Mother and Grandmother up above, tell her how much we miss her and give her all our love.
Devoted Wife of 58 years to the late Dave of whom she has now been re-united with.
Much loved Mum and Friend to Gillian and Diane and adored Grandma to Luke and James.
The funeral service is to be held at Thornton Crematorium on Monday 20th February 2017 at 10.00am.

Family flowers only please, donations if desired to The Heart Foundation C/O The Co-Operative Society, Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool, L23

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RIMMER MAUREEN (WHIPP)

Age 79

6th February 2017
Passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side.

Loving Wife of Ron, dearly loved and precious Mother to Julie,Debbie and Pauline.
Much loved Grandmother to Malik.
Kind Mother in Law to Allan and Mike.
Dear Sister and Sister in Law to Pat & Barry and Tony & Janet,in addition a special Auntie.
Loving Stepmother to Linda,Ian,Carol and the late David.
Sadly missed by all her Family and Friends.
A celebration of her life will take place on Friday 17th February 2017 at Southport Crematorium at 2.40pm,Family flowers only.
Donations to Alley Cats and Kittens.
Enquiries to M J Brookfield Funeral Directors,73-75 Shakespeare Street, Southport,PR8 5AJ.
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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MAKING
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(AUGHTON STREET, BURSCOUGH STREET, CHURCH STREET AND MOOR STREET, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (REVOCATION AND INTRODUCTION OF PROHIBITION OF DRIVING (EXCEPT LOADING) AND ONE WAY TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that further to the making of the "Lancashire County Council (Aughton Street, Burscough Street, Church Street And Moor Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire) (Suspension And Introduction Of Prohibition Of Driving (Except Loading) And One Way Traffic) Experimental Order 2015", Lancashire County Council have made the above named Order on the 8th February 2017 under Sections 1, 2, and 4 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to:

1. Revoke the whole of "The District Council Of West Lancashire (Various Roads, Ormskirk) (Prohibition Of Cycling) Order 1982".
2. Revoke the whole of "The District Council Of West Lancashire (Burscough Street, Ormskirk) (Prohibition Of Motor Vehicles) Order 1979".
3. Revoke the whole of "The District Council Of West Lancashire (Church Street And Moor Street, Ormskirk) (Traffic Regulation) Order 1980".
4. Revoke the whole of Schedule 4 to the" Lancashire County Council (St Helens Road Link/Park Road Improvement Scheme, West Lancashire District) (Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting, Prohibition Of Driving, No Right Turn, And Revocation) Order 1992".
5. Introduce a Prohibition of Driving at all times, every day except for loading from 7am until 10am and from 4pm until 7pm in the following lengths of road:
a) Church Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with Park Road to its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street for the entire length;
b) Burscough Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with Derby Street West and Derby Street to its junction with Church Street, Aughton Street and Moor Street;
c) Aughton Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with Park Road to its junction with Church Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street;
d) Moor Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Church Street to its junction with Railway Road.
6. Introduce a One-way traffic restriction on the following lengths of road:
a) Church Street, Ormskirk, the entire length from its junction with the A570, Park Road in a generally south easterly direction to its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street;
b) Moor Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with Church Street, Aughton Street and Burscough Street in a south easterly direction to its junction with Railway Road;
c) Burscough Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with the A 570, Derby Street West in a south westerly direction to its junction with Church Street, Moor Street and Aughton Street;
d) Aughton Street, Ormskirk, from its junction with the A570, Park Road in a north easterly direction to its junction with Burscough Street, Church Street and Moor Street.

This Order will come into force on the 17 February 2017. A copy of the Order, and all other relevant documents may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of West Lancashire Borough Council, PO Box 16, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF, and at the offices of The Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services, Lancashire County Council, County Hall, PO Box 78, Preston PR1 8XJ, **quoting ref: LSG4/5.54812/AFR**. Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any of its provisions on the grounds that it or they are not within the powers conferred by the Act, or that any requirement of the Act or of any instrument made under the Act has not been complied with, that person may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the order is made, apply for the purpose to the High Court.

Ian Young, Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services
15 February 2017

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PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
The Local Authority
(Referendums)
(Petitions) (England) Regulations 2011

PUBLICATION OF VERIFICATION NUMBER

In accordance with Regulation 4(1) of the above regulations the number that is equal to 5% of the number of local government electors shown in the revised register of electors having effect on the 15th February 2017 is:

4272

This figure will have effect for the purposes of determining the validity of Petitions presented from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018.

The number equal to 5% of the local government electors for 2018 will be published within 14 days of the 15th February 2018. If this number is less than 4272, the number to be used for verification purposes, in relation to any petition presented in the period beginning on the date of publication of the lower number and ending on 31st March 2018, shall be that lower number.

Kim Webber B.Sc., M.Sc. Electoral Registration Officer
West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street,
Ormskirk, West Lancashire L39 2DF
Wednesday 15 February 2017

NOTICE OF MAKING
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(AUGHTON STREET, BURSCOUGH STREET, CHURCH STREET AND MOOR STREET, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (REVOCATION AND INTRODUCTION OF PROHIBITION OF WAITING AND PROHIBITION OF LOADING) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that further to the making of the "Lancashire County Council (Aughton Street, Burscough Street, Church Street And Moor Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire) (Suspension And Introduction Of Prohibition Of Waiting And Prohibition Of Loading) Experimental Order 2015" on the 29th September 2015, Lancashire County Council have made the above named Order on the 8th February 2017 under Sections 1, 2, and 4 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to:

1. Revoke "The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 And The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1991 The Lancashire County Council (West Lancashire District Area) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting) Consolidation Order 2009" insofar as it relates to Schedule 10.01 Item (123) Moor Street, Ormskirk;
a) both sides (ii) from its junction with Aughton Street to a point 23 metres east of that junction;
b) the north side (i) from the western boundary of No. 23 in an easterly direction for a distance of 10 metres;
c) the south side (ii) from a point opposite the western boundary of No. 23 Moor Street for a distance of 10 metres to its junction with Moorgate.
2. Introduce a No Waiting At Any Time Zone in the following roads:
a) Church Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Park Road to its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street.
b) Burscough Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Derby Street West and Derby Street to its junction with Church Street, Aughton Street and Moor Street.
c) Aughton Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Park Road to its junction with Church Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street.
d) Moor Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Church Street to its junction with Railway Road.
3. Introduce a prohibition of Loading/unloading from 7 pm until 7 am and from 10 am until 4 pm in the following lengths of road:
a) Church Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Park Road to its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street.
b) Burscough Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Derby Street West and Derby Street to its junction with Church Street, Aughton Street and Moor Street.
c) Aughton Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Park Road to its junction with Church Street, Burscough Street and Moor Street.
Moor Street, Ormskirk, all sides, from its junction with Aughton Street, Burscough Street and Church Street to its junction with Railway Road.

This Order will come into force on the 17 February 2017. A copy of the Order, and all other relevant documents may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of West Lancashire Borough Council, PO Box 16, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF, and at the offices of The Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services, Lancashire County Council, County Hall, PO Box 78, Preston PR1 8XJ, **quoting ref: LSG4/5.54811/AFR**. Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any of its provisions on the grounds that it or they are not within the powers conferred by the Act, or that any requirement of the Act or of any instrument made under the Act has not been complied with, that person may, within 6 weeks from the date on which the order is made, apply for the purpose to the High Court.

Ian Young, Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services
15 February 2017

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2017/0001/FUL Erection of a new technology centre to accommodate the construction and engineering departments of West Lancashire College within the curtilage of their Skelmersdale Campus. The new building will be single storey (5m to parapet) and stand-alone but adjacent to the existing main buildings, it will house electrical, wood, brick, plastering, engineering and motor vehicle workshops with other ancillary spaces at West Lancashire College Skelmersdale Campus, College Way, Skelmersdale.

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2017/0071/FUL Extension of dormer bungalow to first floor and rear conservatory. Re-building of front porch at 11 Dean Close, Up Holland.

Application No: 2017/0094/FUL Replacement outbuilding in C3 use providing accommodation ancillary to the domestic use of Malt Kiln Barn at Malt Kiln Barn, Halsall Road, Halsall.

Application No: 2017/0100/FUL Proposed garden room to replace existing conservatory at Blue Cedar, Lancaster Lane, Parbold.

Application No: 2017/0122/FUL Erection of storage building containing three storage containers, log store and open covered workshop area at National Trust, Rufford Old Hall, 200 Liverpool Road, Rufford.

Application No: 2017/0123/LBC Listed Building Consent - Erection of storage building containing three storage containers, log store and open covered workshop area at National Trust, Rufford Old Hall, 200 Liverpool Road, Rufford.

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI — Dated: 15th February 2017
Director of Development and Regeneration — PDNOT935

NOTICE OF MAKING
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(AUGHTON STREET, BURSCOUGH STREET, CHURCH STREET AND MOOR STREET, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (REVOCATION AND INTRODUCTION OF PROHIBITION OF WAITING AND PROHIBITION OF LOADING) ORDER 2017

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Ian Young, Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services
15 February 2017

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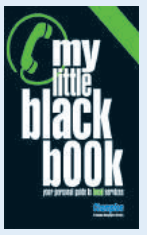

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FIRST they came – to badly misquote Martin Niemöller - for the owners of yellow Vauxhall Corsas.

But car lovers across the country did speak out, by telling residents of the Cotswold village of Bilbury to get stuffed. You might have read about Peter Maddox, the 84-year-old man whose brightly hued supermini was vandalised by people who objected to it being parked in the picturesque village.

So owners of yellow cars from across the UK are responding by organising an entire convoy to pay the villagers a visit later this spring. As long as it's all above board – and the organisers are in talks with the local council to make sure it is – I completely support it.

This from someone who hates the Vauxhall Corsa. But I hate curtain-twitching, NIMBY-ist busybodies who resent car enthusiasts lawfully enjoying their hobby even more.

If someone doesn't like a yellow Corsa I respect their right to poke fun at it, but to scratch someone's pride and joy, smash its windows in and scrawl the word 'MOVE' on it is completely beyond the pale. It's as though someone watched the hit film *Hot Fuzz*, where resentful locals forcefully kill or remove anything or anyone that ruins their chances of winning the Best Village award, and thought it was a documentary.

It's the same with people who write to the council because they object to their neighbour having a partially restored Triumph Spitfire on their driveway or those who take racetracks to court for being a bit noisy, even when the circuit was there long before their house was. Objecting so strongly to someone's choice of car – and what they do with it, as long as it's legal – is absurd.

I'd hate to think people who read about Peter's car and thought 'Oh, good' aren't emboldened by it, because they'll move on to green Chrysler PT Cruisers and lowered Audi A3s next. Then it'll be those Toyota MR2s that have been body-kitted to look like Ferrari F355s, followed by people who drive Range Rover Sports and BMW X5s with oversized alloys. Owners of Nissan Jukes, even in completely standard form, should be looking worried by this point.

Then they'll come for the owners of MGB GTs with slightly flaky paintwork. Only they won't, because car fans are letting them know now that it's a ridiculous idea. I may not agree with your yellow Vauxhall Corsa, but I'll defend to the death your right to drive it.

David is the editor of Classic Car Weekly publication

David encourages you to exercise your motoring rights by driving one of these to a nearby beauty spot

Citago's new look

SKODA' has taken a scalpel to its smallest model to give it a fresh new look.
The Citigo has been given a new bonnet, radiator grille, bumper and fog lights at the front, plus redesigned alloy wheels, and inside it's been given a redesigned instrument cluster.
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The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales only, subject to availability for vehicles registered between 01.01.17 and 31.03.17 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% APR Mazda Personal Contract Purchase available on all Mazda2 and 2017 Mazda3 models. Finance subject to status, 18s or over. Guarantee may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 1SR. Model shown: Mazda2 75ps SE, OTR from £12,595. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£660). 2017 Mazda3 120ps SE, OTR from £17,795. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£670). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. °Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. .

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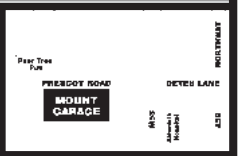

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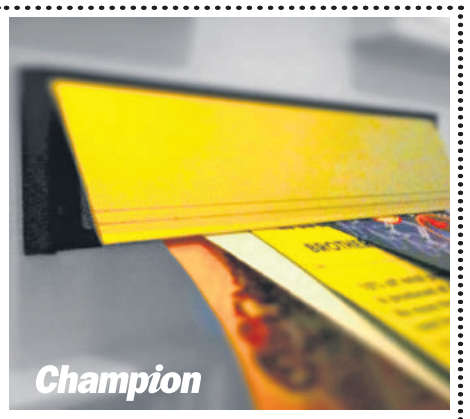

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Vital win for Linnets over fellow strugglers

Burscough 2
Goole 0

BURSCOUGH bought a ticket to survival on Saturday when they beat the team immediately above them in the league.

Most importantly though it gives them a glimmer of hope in catching hold of that vital 20th position in the Evo-Stik Division One North, especially when you consider that the team occupying that spot Mossley travel to Victoria Park in the first week in March

It took Burscough just three minutes to grab the lead, Mamoke Akaunu cutting a swathe through the Goole defence before finding the net.

Goole responded by going on the offensive but found Burscough in a stubborn mood and goal chances were at a premium at both ends.

Goalkeeper Richie Mottram was called into action before the interval but smothered the few opportunities that the men from Humberside managed to create.

The second-half was equally tight with again goalkeeper Mottram snubbing out Goole's hopes on the rare occasion they did threaten.

Finally Burscough killed the game off and moved that bit nearer to safety, Adam Gilchrist providing the winner seven minutes from time.

It was a game the Linnets had to win and they needed much of the determination they have shown in previous weeks to do so, it will stand them in good stead over the next ten weeks.

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Late comeback just too late for spirited Skem

New Skem signing Reece McNally against Halesowen. Picture by John Driscoll

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

Skelmersdale 1
Halesowen Town 2

BOSS Alan Rogers' first home game in charge ended in defeat - after his youthful side narrowly failed to come back from a two goal deficit.

Halesowen could have scored twice early on when Tristian Dunkley hit the post and then put a clever lob just wide.

A nice exchange of passes between Skem's Nathan Randell and Gillespie gave the ball to an off balance Jack Watts, but he couldn't get a clean connection.

Skem soon had Halesowen on the defensive, and Watts hit the crossbar.

Early part in the second-half a storming run by Randell ended with his shot going just wide.

Halesowen struck on 57 minutes when a free-kick was only partially cleared and the ball went to the left-wing, Matt Briley hoisted the ball back into the goalmouth and six foot plus centre-back Liam Slade nodded the ball home.

Halesowen doubled their lead with a breakaway goal on 73 minutes when Ethan Delaney netted after a diagonal ball from Ben Clarke.

But it wasn't to be a run runaway victory for Town as Skelmersdale then upped the tempo.

Remmy Howarth looks a player with a future as he terrorised the left side of the visiting defence at every opportunity, while Watts was orchestrating matters from the middle of the park.

Watts beat keeper Platt all ends up in the 84th minute, but the crossbar came to Town's rescue.

Man of the match Nathan Randell then pulled the ball back across goal after a run down the left, to give Dean Shacklock a tap-in on 88 minutes to set up a grandstand finish.

Halesowen were left hacking the ball clear and packing their penalty area as Skelmersdale swarmed forward.

It was just too late though and in the end they were beaten by the clock.

It could certainly be argued that if they had scored five minutes earlier they would very likely have equalised.

Burscough and United boost their squads with four new signings each

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

BURSCOUGH and Skelmersdale United face difficult away games this weekend, but after good performances in their previous fixtures both teams will be looking forward to the challenge.

Burscough did themselves the power of good with a 2-0 success at home to AFC Goole and they will think they can repeat the act at Brighouse Town.

Skelmersdale lost 2-1 at home Halesowen Town but Alan Rogers much changed side showed more than enough to send the Skem supporters down the M6 to Hednesford this Saturday with positive thoughts.

Hednesford could be said to have underachieved this season and are now on their third manager since August, they lie in 12th position in the Evo-Stik Premier Division table on 44 points from 30 games.

Hednesford won 3-1 at the Uretek Stadium earlier in the season, but it certainly could be argued that on the day they were less than convincing winners.

Brighouse have only won six out of their 13 home games this season and are in danger of slipping off the pace to achieve a play-off position in Division One North, so Burscough will not be considering they face an insurmountable task.

The Linnets and Skem were busy strengthening their squads prior to last week's matches each signing four new players.

Reputation wise Skelmersdale arguably made the biggest signing bringing in 31 year old striker Steve Gillespie, a man who can boast Bristol City, Bristol Rovers, Cheltenham Town and Colchester United among former clubs.

He has scored a lot of goals around the Football League and reportedly changed hands for around £400,000 when joining Colchester.

Other Skem signings were midfielder Max Allen from Bolton Wanderers, Ramirez Howarth from Blackburn Rovers and Reece McNally from Wigan Athletic, although the latter has been playing for Burscough recently.

All four players played a part against Halesowen with Howarth really catching the eye on the right-hand side.

Burscough have signed four players too, all have Skelmersdale connections.

As speculated last week the Nicholson brothers Joe and Josh, joined directly from Skelmersdale along with Ronnie McCarthy.

The fourth player was six foot plus central defender Jonah O'Reilly a player who has quite a number of Evo-Stik Premier League appearances and has made around 40 appearances for Prescot Cables.

He should play a leading part in the Burscough side as the season progresses.

After the weekend Skelmersdale are at home to Matlock Town on Tuesday, February 21 and on the same night Burscough take on Derbyshire opposition as well, making the trip to Glossop North End.

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